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Volume XVIII Number 50

"Your Hometown Newspaper"

December 14, 1995

Christmas Lights Highlight Holiday Spirit In F. Hills

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

The frigid temperature nipped at noses and forced them to bundle up in their most protective winter gear, but nothing could chill their spirits as Granger School children, their parents, and community members gathered on Friday, December 8th, to light up Feeding Hills Center.

"There were 'oohs' and 'aahs' when the lights were turned on. The kids were thrilled with the lights, especially the reindeer," said Town Councillor George Bitzas, one of the event's organizers. "It was very cold, but we didn't feel the cold. We just felt a warm community spirit. That's what the holidays are for."

Bitzas said the expanded lighting display at Granger School was a joint effort of the Granger PTO, the Anne Sullivan Memorial Committee, and the Agawam Beautification Committee.

With funds from the Anne Sullivan Memorial Fund and the Beautification Committee, 6,000 lights were purchased to decorate the trees and bushes at the center and to form the two reindeer posed nearby.

Bitzas said the three groups worked together to bring an old-fashioned spirit of giving and sharing to the holidays. "We wanted to bring people and families together," Bitzas said. "Our goal for next year is to illuminate all the trees in Feeding Hills Center."

Caroling At Country View Apartments

Before lighting up Feeding Hills with the town's latest bright lights display, the children and their families gathered at Granger to pick up their song sheets for caroling at the nearby elderly housing complex, Country View Apartments.

Corinne Lafontaine of the Granger PTO said about 300 were expected to join in the school's second annual "Night of Giving."

After caroling for their elderly neighbors and turning on the lights at the center, the children and their families returned to the school cafeteria to warm up with hot chocolate and holiday snacks, and for a raffle with a holiday theme of giving and sharing. The tickets were "purchased" with a donation of toys, hats, mittens, or toiletries for the Junior Women's Club to distribute to needy families. Prizes for the raffle were donated by local businesses.

SEE GRANGER CHRISTMAS - Page 38...

Agawam Little League Plans Signups For Saturday, Dec. 16th

Agawam Little League Baseball will hold signups for the 1996 spring season on Saturday, December 16th, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., at the Captain Charles Leonard House in Agawam Center.

Registration is \$35 per child, which includes raffle tickets. A copy of your child's birth certificate is needed if one was not turned in last year at sign-ups or to your child's coach.

For further information, contact Rob Danie at 789-3658.

WestBank Opens At Westfield Food Store



WESTBANK has opened a branch inside the Edward's Food Warehouse on Route 20 in Westfield. Grand opening ceremonies were held on Friday, December 8th and were officiated by the bank's brass. From left - Al Whitaker, Bob Kapinos, Betty Bieker, Mayor Richard Sullivan, Donald Chase (bank president), and Mike Catellier, Mark Cosby, and Tim Mahoney. RELATED PHOTOS IN SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Agawam To Apply For \$1.35 Million For Library Expansion

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

With \$21 million in state library expansion money up for grabs, Agawam Library Director Donna Campbell has launched an effort to secure a share of the funding that would increase the library by more than twice its present size at a cost of about \$3.5 million.

"We're in critical need of a building addition," Ms. Campbell said. "We're just crammed full. Our children's area is pathetic, and people are complaining about the noise level in the library and the lack of parking spaces."

Mayor Christopher C. Johnson said the town will be applying for approximately \$1.35 million from the state, with the balance to be paid for through municipal bonding.

Ms. Campbell said the grant application is due in April. It must first be approved by Town Council. Successful applicants will be notified by the state, and groundbreaking on additions would be likely to occur within a year after that.

As part of the grant application process, a library building program has been prepared by Sondra H. Vandermark of Vandermark Consulting and was presented on Monday evening, December 11th to two town councillors and one councillor-elect in a meeting in the library's Community Room.

In a memo dated December 7th, Johnson invited councillors and councillors-elect to the meeting. Attending Monday night's meeting were Councillors Thomas Ennis, David Skolnick, and Councillor-Elect Kent Servis.

SEE LIBRARY - Page 2...

Helping Easter Seals...



JACK SARAT, President of Sarat Ford Sales, Inc., Agawam, listens to 1996 Massachusetts Easter Seal Child Randy Johnson, age seven, of Boylston, talk about the computer he has from Easter Seals' Assistive Technology Center. They met at the recent Easter Seal Annual Meeting, where Sarat was elected Assistant Treasurer of the Easter Seal State Board of Directors. He has been a volunteer for seven years, serving as Western Massachusetts Telethon Chairman for three years.

LIBRARY - from Page 1...

Ms. Campbell said she was disappointed with the turnout, which Johnson blamed on the weather, late notification, and the hectic pace of the holiday season.

Ms. Campbell said the library program statement represents the library's instructions to the architect and serves as the basic understanding among the project team members.

Increase in Building Size Is Recommended

After reviewing the library's needs through research, library user surveys, and on-site visits, Ms. Vandermark is recommending the building size be increased from 15,000 square feet to 33,000 square feet to meet the town's needs for the next 20 years.

The building program also recommends 140 additional reader seats, an increase of 5,000 square feet for the children's area, and an additional 45 parking spaces.

Ms. Vandermark said the library currently has only 10,000 square feet for public use (5,000 square feet of basement space is used by the staff only) which averages out to .55 square feet per capita, as compared with 1.65 square feet in Andover and 1.44 square feet in Amherst.

"Right now there are approximately 43 reader seats, and some are at tables with displays that are not particularly conducive to studying," Ms. Vandermark said. "Whenever I visit the library, I always notice a lot of kids working on homework, and it's important for them to have a place to sit for longer periods."

Ms. Vandermark said she was recommending an additional 18,000 square feet of space because there is a strong commitment to educational support at the library within the community.

Ms. Vandermark also found staffing for Agawam's library to be quite low when compared to 13 other libraries, and the rate of circulation per staff member to be quite high. In Agawam, the circulation rate is 21.730 for one staff member compared to 13,210 per staff member in similar communities.

Johnson said the town has received several bids and expects to have an architect selected so the design selection process can begin by January. Johnson said the cost of an addition to the library would be largely dependent on where the addition is located.

IRS Has An Early Holiday Gift For Local Taxpayers

The Internal Revenue Service has \$1,314,206.57 in unclaimed refund checks belonging to over 1,400 Massachusetts residents, including **Joseph and Jean B. Wolshnis** of Agawam, and **Kurt T. and Sheila A. Toomey** of Feeding Hills.

The checks have been returned by the Postal Service as undeliverable and range in size from \$40.80 to \$61,736.50.

"The Internal Revenue Service is encouraging taxpayers to call the IRS toll-free taxpayer assistance line at 1-800-829-1040 to claim their refund, said Francine Crowley, Boston IRS District Director.

Every year, thousands of checks are returned because the address on the tax return was not legible, or the taxpayer moved and did not leave a forwarding address. The IRS has a simple, one-page form that can be used by individuals and businesses to alert the IRS to a new address, Form 8822, "Change of Address." To obtain a copy of this form, call toll-free 1-800-829-3676.

"One of the best ways to avoid misdirected refund checks is to use the peel-off label in the tax package," noted Crowley. Any name or address correction should be made on the label itself.

To minimize the possibility of tax refunds going astray, taxpayers should consider filing their return electronically and elect to have their refund directly deposited into their checking or savings account.

Replica Of Riverside Park's 1909 Carousel This Year's Jr. Women's Holiday Ornament

The Agawam Junior Women's Club has its 1995 holiday ornament on sale now. This year's ornament is a fifth in a series featuring historical sites in Agawam/Feeding Hills.

This year's ornament features "American Beauty" from M.C. Illions Carousel, circa 1909, located at Riverside Park.

The ornament is a molded pewter medallion of "American Beauty," surrounded by a pewter wreath. The donation is \$5. Proceeds will be used

Keenan: Education Reform Grants Awarded To Agawam

State Representative Daniel F. Keenan is pleased to announce the following Education Reform FY 96 Competitive Grant Awards for Agawam:

The Agawam Public Schools were awarded \$3,000 in the PALMS Professional Development Grant for Math and Science Education, and \$5,000 for Planning Grants.

Due to limited state and federal dollars for distribution, this year's grants process was extremely competitive. The grants awarded will provide essential support for hundreds of innovative programs across the Commonwealth. These funds are available through the support of the Legislature and the Governor's Office, as well as the share provided by the federal government.

"These funds represent the state's continuing commitment to Education Reform," stated Rep. Keenan. "I full support these efforts to provide a quality education to all our students."

Each district receives substantial additional state dollars from Chapter 70 aid which represents the dollars provided to school districts through the Foundation Budget formula of the Education Reform Act of 1993, and additional state and federal funds such as Title I, School Building Assistance, and non-competitive "entitlement" grants.

for community service projects.

There are a limited number of past ornaments available as well. Please call Pam at 789-3274 or Betty to inquire. Ornaments are available at the Feeding Hills Public Market, the Agawam Public Market, Surprise! Card & Gift, and The Corner Deli.

The Agawam Junior Women's Club is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs of Massachusetts.

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Agawam Police Officers Go Above & Beyond Call Of Duty

To The Editor:

My mother, Iris Stefanowich, recently died at Heritage Hall Nursing Home at the age of 67 years. (12-2-95)

I would like to say "Thank You" to three Agawam Police Officers who went above and beyond their job description and line of duty. They kept in touch with me during her dying days and were **ALWAYS** by my side or a phone call away when I needed them.

Lt. William Silech, Officer Terry Letellier, and Officer Mark Poggi—these men should be recognized and commended for their true dedication and heartfelt compassion, especially during horrible times like these. They are not only a CREDIT to their job but an unbelievable BLESSING for the entire Town of Agawam.

God be with them always. Bless their families. Men like these are a **TRUE** rarity.

From My Heart,
Kathie Stefanowich Mokeyecki
32 George St.
West Springfield

Community Thanksgiving Is A Great Success

To The Editor:

Many thanks to all who made it possible for many of our Agawam people to have a wonderful Thanksgiving dinner this year. With the help of the Senior Center and the Health Department, we were able to deliver about 40 dinners to residents of Agawam. Last year, 22 dinners were served.

The West Springfield Parish Association has been sponsoring this dinner since 1982, and it has grown from 120 the first year to over 1,000 this year.

Dinner is served at Mittineague Methodist Church, and many dinners are delivered to homes. This is the second year they have invited Agawam to participate.

This year, businesses and churches in Agawam were contacted, requesting donations. We would also like to thank them all for their generosity.

All of the drivers who delivered meals had a wonderful opportunity to help make the holiday season more meaningful. Thank you one and all.

Carol Treganowan
Agawam

Agawam Family Says Thanks To Paramedics And EMT's

To The Editor:

We would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Agawam paramedics and EMT's. They are a very special group of people.

Their prompt response, true professionalism, and compassion are a source of pride and comfort to the residents of Agawam.

Thank you,
The Grenier family
Agawam

Resident's Impression Of November 20th Council Mtg.

To The Editor:

Based on recent letters to *The Agawam Advertiser News*, some readers viewed a different town meeting on November 20th than the one that I saw on Channel 5. What I saw was:

1. A gasoline storage permit was being requested for storage of massive quantities of chemicals, but not gasoline. You would not want to put these chemicals, including sulphuric acid, in your gas tank.

2. The mayor had found a loophole which gave his building inspector the sole right to determine what materials were hazardous, without going through the Board of Appeals.

3. The mayor filed the abutter's forms with his clerk at town hall, but not with the council clerk as the rules required.

4. The mayor had delayed the paperwork until the plant had been built and the people were hired to plead for turkey on the table and presents under the tree, which they did.

5. The process was then being expedited by the mayor not only because the plant was near completion, but because two of his councilors had been voted out, another did not run, and their terms were about to expire.

6. The mayor suggested directly to two councilors opposing him, that they probably had hazardous materials stored at their places of business in Agawam.

None of these items was mentioned by those who wrote letters "To The Editor" saying they were "embarrassed" by the conduct of the councilors.

They must have seen only what they wanted to see, what others wanted them to see, or were not tuned to Channel 5.

Don Hazen
Feeding Hills

Berkshire Power Has Not Been Forthright With The Facts

To The Editor:

It is interesting that for the first time in the almost 10 months that I have been placing letters in this forum regarding the proposed Berkshire Power plant, I have been responded to by the proponents. Sadly, the letter from Mr. Walsh printed last week takes my November 13th letter completely out of context.

My November 13th letter questioned the POSSIBILITY of one of our town councilors having financial ties with Berkshire Power as a private citizen. I did not "disparage" that councilor for having such ties as a private citizen.

I did state the concern, however, that such ties, IF they existed, would be a conflict of interest for the town councilor in his public duties. I also stated the concern that it was possible that Berkshire Power could use such a tie, IF it existed, to influence such a town councilor.

Once again it appears that Berkshire Power is taking the route of the best defense being an offense. What is truly offensive this time is that Mr. Walsh apparently accused me of making a "knowingly false" statement. Coming from an employee of Berkshire Power this is extremely ironic, as Berkshire Power evidently has not been very forthright in its push to force a power plant on us.

Berkshire Power's use of outdated maps in their environmental notification form to the state could appear to be a "knowingly false" statement. So could their early denial that there was no icing potential from their cooling towers, which was later changed to the icing only affecting the Five Star Transportation parking lot.

In a previous letter, I mentioned the Berkshire

Power statements regarding lighting of the smokestack, which first would be unlighted and then one of the few lights to be seen at night from their plant. I am sure other interested citizens and businessmen have other memorable instances where the possibility could be raised that Berkshire Power was not being completely truthful in its statements.

Again, Berkshire Power, its employees, and supporters have to be reminded that **THEY**, not the people and businesses of Agawam, have to prove **THEIR** case. It is **THEIR** credibility which is at stake with the people of Agawam, especially since they appear to have the huge resources as a big business to pay for information and hired experts to help press their cause.

I and the townspeople of Agawam should probably feel insulted by the attitude of Berkshire Power and its supporters. While **OUR** concerns have been ignored or dismissed, **THEY** take on the mantle of wounded innocence whenever **THEY** are pressed for honest answers. My concerns, and those of other Agawam residents and businessmen, are honest, and we want them addressed openly and independently of the shady tactics used against us so far.

So, Berkshire Power, if your scheme is such a great idea **FOR US**, and if you are **NOT** doing anything untoward to further **YOUR** plans, then **PROVE IT**.

Sincerely,
Rob Keenan
150 Riviera Drive
Agawam

Opponents Of Berkshire Power Have Ignored Facts

To The Editor:

Part of the Democratic process is for opponents or proponents of a candidate or project to have their say. That's the way things should be.

But the opponents of the Berkshire Power Plant are starting to become ridiculous in their continued opposition. The city of Agawam now has an independent report, requested by the Zoning Board, that states that the claims of the opponents are without basis. Chez Josef, the major opponent of the project, has decided to cease its opposition.

SEE LETTERS - Page 6...

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

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Saturday, December 16th
American Red Cross Blood Drive
At Agawam Senior Center,
Wright Street, Agawam
8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Call 737-4306 for appointment;
walk-ins are welcome

Saturday, December 16th
"Pet Photos With Santa"
at Taylor Transmission
(sponsored by Topper's)
12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m.
Photos are \$5 each, & tickets
are available at Topper's

Saturday, December 16th
Baked ham & bean supper at
Agawam Methodist Church
5:30 p.m.
\$5, seniors; \$6, all others

Monday, December 18th
Agawam Women's Club meeting
At Captain Charles Leonard
House, Agawam Center
7:30 p.m.

Monday, December 18th
Jr. High School PTO meeting
At Agawam Junior High cafeteria
7:30 p.m.
Call 786-3888 for more info.



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LETTERS - from Page 4...

Opposition on occasion can be healthy. It provides a better dialogue, but the opposition to Berkshire Power has become ridiculous, especially when they decide to ignore the facts. There are so many other issues facing us in this city. It's time to get on and confront those issues and problems.

How much longer will this group of opponents attempt to tell the majority of us in this city what we should or should not be doing? When they had a chance to present their case to the state agencies that will approve the project, the opposition chose not to participate.

It is clear they would rather make noise than have a factual discussion.

Viola R. Hajec
Feeding Hills

Power Project Should Be Allowed To Come To Agawam

To The Editor:

I am a senior citizen that has been following the proposal from Berkshire Power. I have read and researched the information supplied to me the best I could. I have listened to scare tactic information, provided by the opponents, that I now see was misleading.

I strongly feel that this town needs to develop the Industrial Park and also maintain open space, PLUS get the most money that we can. I see all that will come with the building of the power plant. Our town will benefit in countless ways. I have seen much growth in this town and I feel this is a great proposal.

I believe that it is time that we stop putting down councilors and other people that have the best interest for the town of Agawam. At times, it is a disgrace to observe the behavior from some people from this town.

In closing, I would like to make clear that BERKSHIRE POWER SHOULD COME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO AGAWAM!

Sincerely,
E. Monroe
Feeding Hills

Attorney Thomas Locke Relocates His Law Offices

The law offices of Thomas S. Locke have relocated for the general practice of law to 430 Main Street, Suite 100, Centre Building, Agawam, MA 01001.

The phone number for Locke's law offices is (413) 786-5400; his FAX number is (413) 789-7157.

AIDS Action Comm. Praises Melconian For Leadership

The AIDS Action Committee of Massachusetts has praised Senator Linda Melconian (D-Springfield) for her leadership in providing new legal protections for parents with the passage of the *Standby and Emergency Guardianship Proxies Bill*.

This landmark legislation, spearheaded by AIDS Action, will allow seriously ill parents to plan for the future care of their children in the event of the parent's death or temporary incapacity due to illness. The bill was signed into law by Governor Weld on November 17th.

AIDS Action pushed for passage of the legislation in response to the devastating impact AIDS is having on families and single mothers. Now the leading cause of death of all Americans 25 to 44 years-old, AIDS is expected to orphan an estimated 82,000 children by the end of the decade.

Senator Melconian was singled out for her key role in sponsoring the legislation and ushering it through the legislature.

"Too often parents who are seriously ill are left without a simple means of planning for the future care of their children. As a result, many do not," said Larry Kessler, AIDS Action's executive director. "The Standby Guardianship law will provide parents a way to make these difficult and emotional decisions before their deaths, and without having to relinquish custody of their children. This saves heartache for the parents and for the children. We are indebted to Senator Melconian for championing a bill that effectively and sensitively responds to one of the real problems faced by families today."

According to AIDS Action, the old state law made it difficult for single parents to plan for the care of their children if the parent became incapacitated or died. As a result, many children had to deal simultaneously with the loss of their parent and with the uncertainty about where they would live and who would care for them. The new law amends current probate law and allow parents, with the court's approval, to designate another guardian in the event of the parent's incapacity or death.

The bill's filing was also supported by the Boston Pediatric AIDS Project, Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, Massachusetts Catholic Conference, AIDS Project Worcester, Foundation for Children with AIDS, the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange, Living Legacy Program, and the Children's League of Massachusetts.

*Best
local
news...*

FireWise...

by Fire Chief David Pisano
Proper Use Of Wood Stoves

The use of wood stoves has significantly increased in recent years. Unfortunately, wood stove and chimney fires have also increased.

Wood stoves require extra care in installing, operating, and maintaining as compared to conventional heat sources. Use the following steps when deciding to purchase, install, and use a woodburning stove in your home:

- Purchase only wood stoves that have been listed by a recognized testing agency, such as Underwriters Laboratory (UL).

- Contact your appropriate building official to ascertain whether a building permit is required for wood stove installation.

- Have the wood stove installed by a professional. Then have the completed installation inspected.

Once installed:

- Keep all flammable material at least three feet from the wood stove.

- Purchase a screen to place around the wood stove to prevent children and pets from being accidentally burned. Never leave children unattended in the room with the wood stove while a fire is burning.

- Burn only dry, well-seasoned wood.
- Never use a flammable liquid to start or revive a fire in a wood stove. Many deaths have occurred by ignoring this one safety warning.

- Never use your wood stove to burn trash.

- Creosote is the product of incomplete combustion, and creosote build-up can cause a chimney fire. Opening the air inlets or the wood stove door and allowing the wood to burn freely for 10 to 15 minutes several times a week will reduce creosote build-up.

Know the signs of a chimney fire—a loud roar, sucking sounds, and shaking pipes. Make sure everyone knows what to do. Practice fire drills and learn how to use a fire extinguisher.

If you think you have a chimney fire, call the fire department (911) immediately. Cut off the fire's air supply by closing any intake vents in the firebox. Close the damper. Get everyone out of the house.

Dispose of ashes by placing them in metal containers. Do not put them in paper bags or cardboard boxes. Ashes can retain enough heat to start a fire for several days. Wet ashes to make sure they are cold.

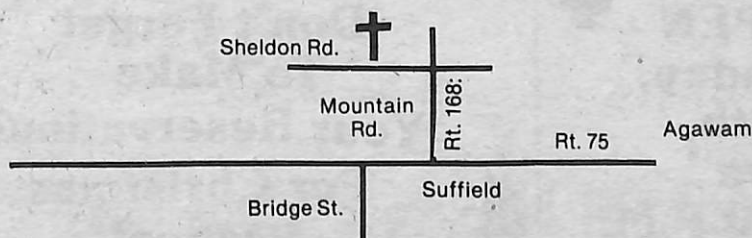
For additional installation tips and safety procedures, call the Agawam Fire Department at 786-2662.

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— on —

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West Springfield, Massachusetts

To allow us to plan for this Special Holiday Service, reservations are requested.

Please call 781-7766
Dick and Joe Curran

One of the nicest things about the Holiday Season is letting friends know we care and Remember!

In memory of your loved one, we are placing a personalized Brightside Angel on our Remembrance Tree.



View From The State House

by State Rep.
Daniel F. Keenan

Weld's Plan On How To "Downsize" State Govt.

The Governor's plan to downsize state government has made its initial splash in the media and the public has witnessed the Governor's forays throughout the state to garner public support for his sweeping proposal to eliminate state government as we know it. What in effect amounts to a program to dismantle Massachusetts government reflects Governor Weld's beliefs in what the mission of state government *should* be.

Those beliefs are fundamental to the Governor's plan to streamline state government. Government needs to ensure the public safety. Government needs to help those who can't help themselves. Government needs to serve as steward for our public property. Government needs to ensure an educated citizenry.

The Governor's message is that he not only wants to downsize government but to recreate it. He had commissioned Lt. Governor Cellucci to crisscross the state to gather the pulse of the citizenry, and the Lt. Governor returned with the message that citizens want to cut bureaucracy, stop needless regulation, quit throwing away money on programs that do not work, and get rid of state employees who have forgotten for whom they work. Most importantly, citizens expressed their number one wish for state government - to cut taxes.

To these ends, Governor Weld has proposed cutting the tax rate on wages from 5.95 percent to 5.45 percent, cutting the number of Secretariats from 11 to five, cutting 76 agencies from a total of 101, and cutting 263 boards and commissions. According to his plan, the Commonwealth would employ 7,500 fewer people and it would cost two-thirds of a billion dollars less a year to operate the state's government.

I. The Governor's proposal would eliminate the Executive Office of Education and would merge the Board of Education, the MassJobs Council, and the Higher Education Coordinating Council into the new Board of Education and Training. Caps on charter schools would be lifted and parents would be provided vouchers to allow their children to attend the public school of their choice. The new board would supervise the financing of public higher education and the 49 job training programs would be consolidated into two levels - state and local.

II. The plan would create the new Secretariat of Family Services with four agencies to replace the 20 under the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and other secretariats. There are currently 212 regional and area offices of EOHHS around the state. The programs cost \$7 billion a year and employ over 26,000 social workers, health professionals, and other staff. They serve over 800,000 people and account for half of the state's budget, one-third of state employees, and 13 percent of the population. The goal under this new secretariat is to move clients to maximum self-sufficiency.

III. The plan proposes the elimination of the Executive Office of Transportation and Construction and replacing it with the Secretariat of Public Property. Under this proposal, the Governor hopes to achieve increased control over management, maintenance and construction of the public infrastructure. The Governor would have veto power over state authorities' spending and he would rely on privatization.

IV. Under the Secretariat of Administration and Finance, the civil service system would be abolished and a new Department of Licensing and Regulation would be established. The governor proposes to sunset the Code of Massachusetts Regulations; that is, that every fee rate and every rule in the Commonwealth in effect on January 1,

1997, would have to be renewed with justification. The governor points to the fact that there are 10 separate agencies, boards, commissions, and councils in the state to serve the disabled. He believes that overregulation takes money from businesses, puts them at a disadvantage with their competitors, and makes it difficult for new businesses to succeed.

V. The Secretariat of Public Safety would establish three new departments: Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement, and Emergency Management. The state police would move away from road patrols to specialty services. County government would be eliminated while retaining sheriffs and unifying corrections, including probation and parole.

Ultimately, the Governor is asking the legislature to determine the essential functions of government. He is asking them to empower local communities through less taxation at the state level, where funds are currently distributed back to the cities and towns with strings attached. His plan purports to promote more effective public spending based on results, not effort. In effect, the thrust of the Governor's arguments are that more money will be spent on direct services with less spent on administration.

There is no doubt that the citizens of Massachusetts are seeking a fundamental change in government, not only in the way it operates, but also with the expectation that government will do more with less. Many people believe that government should be run more like a business, which is a popular notion but does not take into account several major differences between business and government.

Business exists in order to return a profit from the money paid to it by its customers. Government operates quite differently in that its aim is the delivery of services paid for in the form of taxes. The decision-making process in govern-

ment is open and democratic. One similarity is that customer service is now assuming similar importance in public service as it now occupies in the private sector.

The alternative to business as usual for government seems to be a growing reliance on public-private partnerships. Privatization is another idea currently in vogue, but we should remember that there are some things which government does better than business, such as ensuring the continuity and stability of such services as education, fire, and police protection.

As demand for public services outstrip revenues, officials must become more innovative in the way they approach the delivery of public services. They must realize that government must be more flexible and adaptable if the state as well as the country are to be competitive in the global marketplace. Government must be able to respond quickly to rapidly changing conditions. This requires the elimination of obsolete agencies and regulations.

Government exists as the framework to deliver public services. There is not doubt that it must become more accountable, efficient, and effective at every level. In looking at the Governor's plan, there is no compelling reason to keep state government immovable and rigid merely because it has always been this way. Many legislators are coming to the realization that we cannot continue to fund programs merely because of the way that it has been done in the past. An overhaul of programs and their delivery system is warranted when and if the results are not adequate to address the programs they are designed to assist.

There are several criteria which must be exercised in an examination of the Governor's proposal. First and foremost, is the current state government effective or is there duplication of effort, programs that go nowhere, and money spent

SEE KEENAN - Page 8...

SCOTT'S CITGO



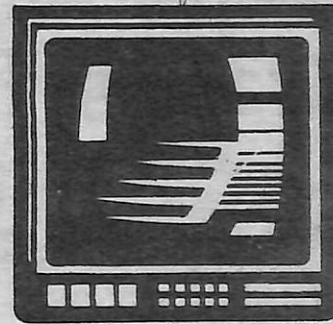
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Kerry And Weld To Debate On Dan Yorke Show

United States Senator John Kerry and Massachusetts Governor William Weld, a candidate for Kerry's seat, have each agreed to appear together for a one-hour debate with popular talk show host Dan Yorke.

Yorke, who hosts talk programs on both WHYN NewsTalk 560 radio (weekdays 3:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m.) and WGGB-TV (weeknights after "Nightline"), spoke directly with each candidate within the last week on his radio program.

In each of his conversations, Yorke stressed the importance of an "informal sit down, just you and the other guy and me to cut through the red tape formality that bogs down the typical senatorial debate."

On Thursday, November 30th, Governor Weld said, "Yeah, I will (agree to the appearance) and if he can't make it, we'll do it with an empty chair. How about that?"

On Tuesday, December 5th, Kerry responded that an empty chair would not be necessary. "I would love to do it," he said.

Acknowledging the expected intense negotiations that will surround formal debates between the two candidates, Yorke said, "Rather than join the long list of media outlets who will undoubtedly be lining up for debates, I thought it best to secure the commitments from the candidates directly. I am honored that both respect my work enough to make this decision on their own."

Yorke expects to simulcast the candidates' debate on both his radio AND television programs, and station management will be cooperative in accommodating other media requests for broadcast arrangements.

Yorke is looking forward to working out details with the respective campaign staffs in the coming weeks.

KEENAN - from Page 7...

on services which do not improve the quality of life of the citizens? Secondly, what is the citizens' responsibility and should government take an active role in fostering personal responsibility for the citizens' welfare?

We have witnessed over the last several decades the creation of a government of entitlements, both at the state and federal levels. It is not surprising then to hear citizens clamoring for major changes in the system. However, a thoughtful legislator must give any plan to downsize government careful scrutiny so as not to determine those areas of government which are successful.

The legislator must not mistake citizens' frustration with big government with the notion that sweeping changes will necessarily satisfy their desire for better government. The legislator must reflect on the true and real need for government services and how best to deliver those services. Is the need fundamental and can the government alone provide the services? Ultimately, he or she must remember that citizens care that government works, not how it works.

Randall White Named New Health Agent For Town Of Agawam

Mayor Christopher Johnson has announced the appointment of Randall White to the position of Health Agent for the Town of Agawam. He will begin his employment with the Town on January 8, 1996.

In making the announcement, Mayor Johnson noted that White presently serves as Director of Environmental Health for the City of Springfield. He has also served that city as Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Inspector, Occupational Health Coordinator, and as a Registered Sanitarian. White has been serving the City of Springfield in various health-related capacities for the past 16 years.

In his present position, he is responsible for the implementation of the food protection program requiring the licensing and inspection of approximately 500 food service establishments. In addition, the Division of Environmental Health is

responsible for the enforcement of regulations pertaining to recreational activities, subsurface sewage disposal, animal health, and environmental nuisances relative to air and water pollution and solid waste disposal.

White holds a bachelor's degree in Public Health from the University of Massachusetts. He is also a Registered Sanitarian, a member of the American Public Health Association, and the National Environmental Health Association.

The search committee consisted of Mayor Johnson, William Euliano, Chairperson of the Board of Health, Dominic Urbinati, Building Inspector, and Sandra MacFadyen, Personnel Officer. A total of 17 highly qualified candidates were reviewed by the committee.

White resides with his wife and two children in Southwick.

IRS Says Paperless Tax Returns Are Just A Phone Call Away

Thousands of Massachusetts taxpayers who enjoy the convenience of shopping or banking by phone will also be able to file their federal income taxes simply by making a short telephone call. The Internal Revenue Service's file-by-phone program will expand nationwide in 1996. And, like shopping and banking by phone, TeleFile will not be totally paperless.

About 200,000 Massachusetts taxpayers who now use the federal 1040EZ form will be able to use a touch-tone telephone instead. The taxpayers will end their call by using a Personal Identification Number that will substitute for the signature required on paper returns.

"Filing taxes doesn't get any easier than this," said Francine Crowley, IRS District Director, as she announced the expansion and improvements in the program. "TeleFile will not only save taxpayers time and trouble, but will also make the IRS more efficient," she added.

After the taxpayer provides requested income information, TeleFile will compute the tax and announce how large the taxpayer's refund, if any, will be. Such refunds will generally be received

within three weeks.

Or, it will tell the taxpayer how much additional tax is due. The call will be completed by a confirmation number which the taxpayer can later use if there are any subsequent questions. The entire telephone transaction will take less than 10 minutes.

To be eligible for TeleFile, a taxpayer must receive the special tax booklet containing the PIN, and meet the following conditions:

- * Be single with no dependents;
- * Have taxable income of less than \$50,000;
- * Have filed a tax return previously; and...
- * Be at the same address as last year.

"This is our latest effort to cut paperwork and make it easier for taxpayers," said Crowley, noting that electronically filed returns contained fewer errors and were easier to process.

TeleFile has been tested in select areas since 1992. This past year, nearly 700,000 taxpayers in 10 states filed by phone.

TeleFile access will be available 24 hours daily, and taxpayers will have the option of using the system in English or Spanish.

For copies of his photos in this edition, call AAN photographer Jack Devine at 789-0053.

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Looking Back...

by David Gallano
Agawam Historian



December 1974

DECEMBER 3rd - REV. LOCKHART LEAVES PULPIT AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The Rev. Benjamin T. Lockhart was honored by parishioners at a farewell reception held for him at the church. Lockhart will retire December 31st after 23 years of service, and his parishioners agree, they don't come any better than him.

At the age of 55, he is looking forward to a political career. He was a town meeting member for 12 years and has been elected councilor-at-large for a second two-year term on the Town Council. He will continue to serve as chaplain for the Hampden County jail and will also do some interim preaching.

DECEMBER 5th - FIRE UNION HEAD BLASTS AGAWAM OFFICIALS

Union President Alfred Fontana, Jr. blasted town officials for recent statements on the cause of \$15,000 of excess overtime payments in the fire department. Fontana said Manager Westman ignored a clause in the contract which stated that arrangements for the 42-hour workweek, which started on July 1st, would be made through meetings between the manager and union officials on how the week would be figured. After one meeting with Westman, no response was forthcoming when we asked him for another meeting.

Eight new positions in the department, three of which were designed to offset the reduced work week, were not filled until September, the \$25,000 overtime account was depleted and \$15,000 more was transferred to the account. Fontana also denied that sick leave was being abused. "Sick leave has been averaging 2.6 days per man," Fontana said, "down considerably from years past, so even if 10 men were abusing sick leave, how could that account for \$40,000 in overtime?"

DECEMBER 6th - BURGLARY RING BELIEVED CRACKED BY FOUR ARRESTS

Police in five Hampden County communities

and in Suffield, Connecticut believe they have cracked a major housebreak ring with the arrest of four Springfield men in Agawam. Det. Edward Borgatti said the suspects may have been involved in breaks in Springfield, Longmeadow, Wilbraham, Hampden, East Longmeadow, and Suffield.

Agawam Police were alerted by neighbors along River Road and spotted a station wagon pulling out of the driveway of a home. They stopped the car to investigate and the four occupants fled on foot into a nearby wooded area. Patrolman Thomas Mezzati radioed for help and apprehended the four. Detective Edward Borgatti said the suspects had in their possession at the time of arrest two television sets.

DECEMBER 9th - FEEDING HILLS LIBRARY A 'FIRE TRAP'

The current site of the Feeding Hills Library on South Westfield Street is at least a public safety menace, according to a two-page report from Building Inspector Joseph J. Conte, and at the very worst, a fire trap, according to a 10-page report from Library Director Shirley Richard.

Three councilors favor the repair of the building. Kenneth Barnes, Arthur Kerr, and Richard Theroux see the \$8,100 job as the most reasonable solution now. Other suggestions include using the Junior High School, Granger Elementary, or another building in Feeding Hills for a temporary home.

DECEMBER 9th - PRELIMINARY PLANS SUBMITTED FOR TWO NEW SUBDIVISIONS

"Valley Forge Park," a 34-unit development on North Street Extension, and "Old Colony Manor," a 20-lot subdivision at Wilbur Terrace and Audobon Street, are planned. Both development plans are being requested by Ralph DePalma and James Elasmur of Agawam. At Valley Forge Park, septic system is planned. A public hearing will decide their fate in two months.

DECEMBER 9th - HOLDUP VICTIM CATCHES SUSPECT

Police charged Gary E. Cowlan of Pearl Street, Springfield with the robbery of \$330 in cash a station operator was about to deposit at First Bank & Trust Co., Southgate Plaza. According to police, Cowlan ran out from behind the bank building and confronted Thomas L. Lindsey, operator of the Gasland station at the plaza. Cowlan carried a gun and threatened to kill Lindsey if he didn't turn over the money.

Lindsey dropped the bag of money. Cowlan allegedly grabbed it and fled on foot, but apparently dropped the gun, also, in the process.

Lindsey gave chase and caught the suspect where he held him until police arrived.

DECEMBER 10th - FREE CASH USED TO FINANCE WATER FEE REBATES

The council recently voted to rescind the \$100 hook-up fee and reimburse those who paid it since April. The fee was claimed to be discriminatory by those demanding its abolition. Council voted to transfer a total of \$1,300 from last year's free cash to fund the rebates.

DECEMBER 10th - COUNCIL APPOINTS NEW MEMBERS TO BOARDS

The council appointed Appeals Board alternate John Shaughnessy as a full member of that board, and reappointed Marcel A. Bedard as an alternate. Shaughnessy replaces John Juliano on the board. Serving as full members of the Appeals Board are Jerry Zerra and Theodore Proguiske.

Council members also confirmed the appointment of Roland Corriveau to the Housing Authority for a term ending January 14, 1980.

Westman reported that he still needed advice from engineering consultants Tighe and Bond of Holyoke and "others more versed on Federal Environmental Protection Agency regulation" before recommending the resolution naming the Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Agency as the study group for a regional waste management system.

DECEMBER 10th - COUNCIL VETOES MALL

By an eight to four vote, the council has denied a zone change at the corner of Suffield and Silver Streets to permit construction of a \$2.6 million shopping mall. The rejection comes nearly one year after rejection of a similar proposal. Owner of the property is Carlo Bonavita.

Voting against the change were councilors Arthur Kerr, Richard Theroux, Frederick Nardi, Joseph A. Della-Giustina, Jr., Francis Colli, Paul Query, Benjamin Lockhart, and Edmund Coffey.

The four votes for the change were Donald Rheault, Roy Benjamin, Kenneth Barnes, and Jane Giordano. Absent were Cecilia Harrington and Paul Fieldstad. Councilor Julio Alvingini boycotted the vote, as he did the public hearing, claiming the petition was repetitive.

DECEMBER 10th - TOWN OFFICIALS PONDER ACTION OVER HIGHER WATER RATES

Officials from Southwick, Agawam, and East Longmeadow (communities affected by a 100 percent hike in water rates by Springfield) will consult their respective town attorneys regarding possible legal action against the city. The towns have protested the 100 percent rate hike, retroactive to the last quarter of 1973, halfway through the 18-month budget.

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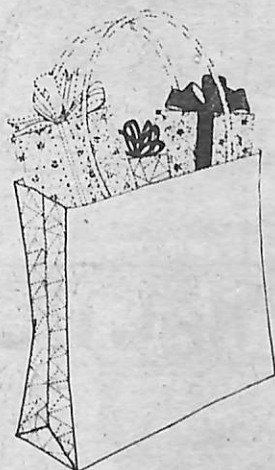
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Town Council Agenda For Mon., December 18th Meeting

1. Citizen's Speak Time
2. Roll Call
3. Moment of Silence and the Pledge of Allegiance
4. Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 11/20/95;
Minutes - Special Council Meeting of 11/22/95;
Minutes - Regular Council Meeting of 12/4/95
5. Declaration from Council President
6. Presentation of Petitions, Memorials & Remonstrances

(a) Resolutions

1. TR-95-35-Resolution Approving Expenditure of an Offered Gift in the Amount of Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000.00) Dollars from Berkshire Power Development, Inc. for Utilization by the Law Department (Mayor).
2. TR-95-36-Resolution Establishing Stop Signs at the Intersection of Jessica Place and Ralph Street with Colemore Street (Mayor).
3. TR-95-37-Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Accept land and Grant Land for the Purposes of Acquired Legal Access to a Connecting Roadway Between South Park Terrace and Lealand Avenue and to Remove an Existing Non-Conforming Land Use at 110 South Park Terrace (Mayor).
7. Report of Council Committees
8. Elections
None.
- 9 Public Hearing
- (a)
1. PH-95-9-(TO-95-51)-Application for Class II Dealer License, Auto Kraft Auto Sales, 119 Walnut St., Agawam, MA (Conduct Public Hearing).
10. Old Business
- (a)
1. TOR-95-10-An Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Town of Agawam, Chapter 155, Art. I, Sec. 155-15 and Chapter 180, Art. I, Section 180-2 (Coun. Bitzas) (1st Reading).
2. TO-95-44-Transfer of \$15,000 from Reserve Fund (11212-57300) to Law Department - Professional & Technical (11512-52190) (Mayor) (Tabled on 11/8/95 - Left on table on 12/4/95).

Fleet Reserve Assoc. To Meet At Westover On December 19th

Pioneer Valley Branch 246 of the Fleet Reserve Association will meet December 19th at 7:00 p.m. at the Westover Club, Westover Air Reserve Base in Chicopee, MA.

Membership is open to eligible men and women of the Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard (active duty and retired).

They are invited to attend Branch meetings, visit with shipmates, and learn about benefits. Branch meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at Westover.

— Agawam Obituaries —

Kathryn Balas

Kathryn "Kitty" (Price) Balas, 89, of 35 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, died last Thursday, December 8th, in a local nursing home.

She was the medical supervisor at the former Horn & Hardart Baking Company in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and worked there for 47 years. She retired in 1968.

Born in Philadelphia, she spent many years in Upper Darby, PA, and was a communicant of St. Alice's Church there. She moved to Agawam in 1987, and was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church.

She was a member of the Agawam Senior Center and Golden Agers Club Chapter I. Her husband, Michael J. Balas, died in 1976. She leaves a daughter, Judy F. Jock of Agawam, and five grandchildren.

The funeral was Monday, December 11th at Colonial Funeral Home and St. John the Evangelist Church, with burial to be arranged in Holy Cross Cemetery at Yeadon, PA.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. John's Hospice, 1221 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19107.

Joseph A. Circosta

Joseph A. Circosta, 78, of 441 Silver Street, Agawam, an Iwo Jima invasion veteran and a retired construction worker for 50 years, died Friday, December 9th, at Baystate Medical Center. He retired in 1982.

Born here, he was a lifelong resident. He was a Marine Corps veteran of the Pacific theater in World War II, and went ashore with the first wave of the V Amphibious Corps at Iwo Jima on February 19th, 1945.

He was a communicant of St. John the Evangelist Church, and a member of the Agawam American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars.

He leaves a brother, George of Agawam; two sisters, Jennie Pirog of Agawam, and Rose Opedisano of Springfield, and nieces and nephews, including David St. John, with whom he lived.

The funeral was Monday, December 11th, at Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home and in the church, with burial at Agawam Center Cemetery.

Curran Family To Again Host "Service Of Remembrance"

The holiday season is a time for remembering and a time for recapturing the joys of our fondest memories. Inspired by our own recollections of Christmas, we reflect upon age-old messages of love, hope, and peace.

We at Curran-Jones know this is a very difficult time for families who are spending their holidays without the presence of a loved one. With this in mind, Richard J. Curran and Joseph D. Curran, owners and operators of the Curran-Jones Funeral Homes of West Springfield and Agawam, and The Edward F. Day Funeral Home of Holyoke, announce their annual "Holiday Service of Remembrance."

They, along with their staff, have organized a Remembrance Tree and Service to be held at the Curran-Jones Funeral Home, located at 109 Main Street in West Springfield, on Saturday, December 16, 1995 at 2:00 p.m.

Following with tradition, the Curran family has

made a donation to Brightside in memory of all we have serviced. Our commitment to Brightside and belief that children are the bright side of Christmas, have inspired us to remember you and your loved one at this special time of year.

All that respond to the Currans' invitation will receive a personalized Brightside Angel. A short memorial service will be conducted by local clergymen, as well as the Lighting of our Christmas Wreath.

Once again, Priscilla Hindmarsh, a bereavement facilitator for the local area, will be sharing her comments. We hope her words will help you to find the love, hope, peace, and serenity of Christmas that will live forever—not only in presence, but in spirit.

The Curran family and staff are very proud of their "Holiday Service of Remembrance" and hope you will join us for this special ceremony.

Our deadline is each Tuesday at 12:00 noon. However, we appreciate any "early birds" who are able to bring in their articles, ads, etc., on Mondays. Thank you!

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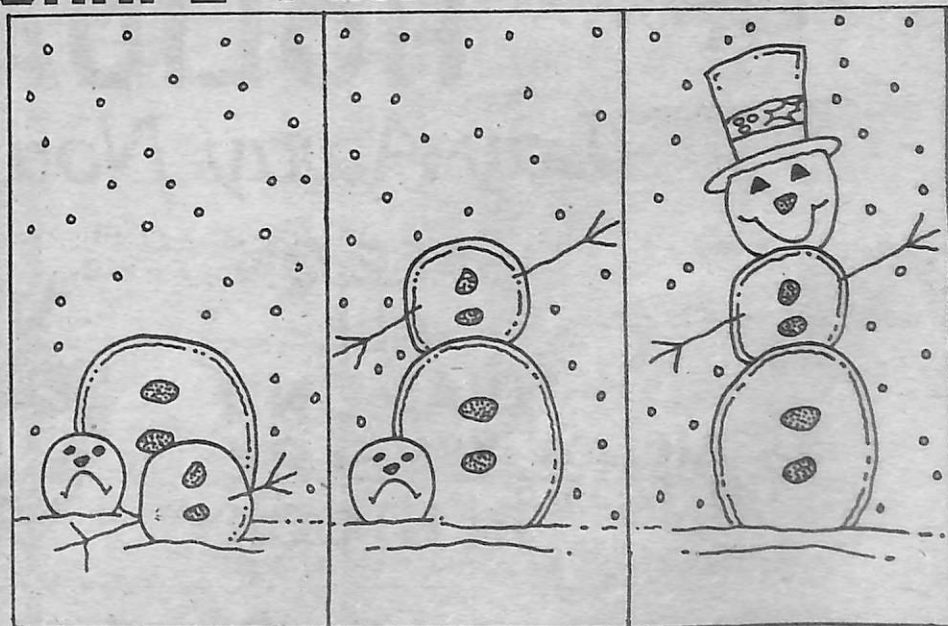
Breakfast With Santa



**Saturday, December 16th &
Sunday, December 17th**

10:00 A.M. Until 12:00 Noon

GET BACK IN SHAPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS



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Families

Floral Concepts By Tom Prepares For Christmas



FLORAL CONCEPTS BY TOM, located at 266 Walnut Street in Agawam, is busy with residents' holiday needs. IN LEFT PHOTO: Barbara-Ann Wesniak takes an order from customer Mickey Juzba. IN RIGHT PHOTO: Tina and Tom Fredette are busy making Christmas wreaths. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

"Pet Photos With Santa" Slated By Topper's This Saturday

On Saturday, December 16th, Topper's will be hosting "Pet Photos With Santa" from 12:00 noon to 3:00 p.m. People are welcome to bring their pets (not necessarily dogs) to be photographed with Santa on that day.

Topper's will be using the waiting room at Taylor Transmission for the occasion. Photos are \$5 each, and you can purchase your tickets for your photo at the register in Topper's.

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Closed Christmas Day
Open Christmas Eve 'Til 6:00 P.M.

Hours:

Monday, 12-8 PM; Tues.-Fri., 12-9 PM; Saturday, 10-9 PM; Sunday, 12-8 PM



It's Christmastime At Cascio's!



AT CASCIO'S NURSERY OVER ON MEADOW STREET, Bob Germain shows off one of the many flocked holiday wreaths that are now on sale; IN PHOTO RIGHT, LOU BLACKAK poses with a flocked Christmas tree, one of the trademarks of Cascio's Nursery. Cascio's also has many fresh Christmas trees now on sale. Stop by today! Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Pvt. Kevin DeJoinville Completes Army Reserve Basic Training

Army Reserve Pvt. Kevin J. DeJoinville has completed basic training at Fort Leonard E. Wood, Waynesville, Missouri.

During the training, students received instruction in drill and ceremonies, weapons, map reading, tactics, military courtesy, military justice, first aid, and Army history and traditions.

DeJoinville is the son of Edward P. and Paula J. DeJoinville of 420 Main St., Agawam.

The private is a 1992 graduate of Tri-County Vocational Technical High School, Franklin.

American Red Cross Blood Drive Slated At Agawam Senior Center

Please give the gift of life this holiday season. The New England Region of the American Red Cross will sponsor a Blood Drive on Saturday, December 16th from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Agawam Senior Center, Wright Street, Agawam.

All donors will be treated to a pancake breakfast, sponsored by the Lions Club.

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PURCHASING THEIR CHRISTMAS TREE at Greeneedle Plantation on South West Street in Feeding Hills are members of the McCready Family - Howard, Nathan, Ciara, and Lynn.

Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Donnellys Announce Birth Of First Daughter, Taryn Rose

Tracie and Kurt Donnelly are happy to announce the birth of their first daughter, Taryn Rose. Taryn was born on November 15th, weighing eight pounds.

She joins her brothers Christopher, age 2½, and Benjamin, age 1½, at home in Hampton Beach, New Hampshire.

The maternal grandparents are Andy and Anita Hastings of Feeding Hills.

The paternal grandparents are Virginia Donnelly Sill of Agawam, and John Donnelly of Marathon, Florida.



GREENEEDLE PLANTATION is well-known throughout the area for its fine quality Christmas trees. The plantation is located at 425 South West Street, Feeding Hills. Pictured above are members of the McLane Family - Stephanie, Erin, Abbe, Lowell, and Ryan. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

District 7 Ladies VFW Auxiliary Named Number One In Membership For State

Once again at the recently held open department meeting of the Ladies' Auxiliary to VFW in Saugus, Mary Driscoll of District 7 was number one in membership in the department of Massachusetts. District President Driscoll thanks all the members that paid their 1996 dues that made this possible.

Dorothy Gates of Wilbraham (5361), District 7 Membership Chairman, presented 20 transmittals to the department of Massachusetts joint membership roundup held recently at West Springfield 6714.

At this writing, many District 7 ladies are attending the Jingle Bell Walk/Run in Springfield for

the Special Olympics. Diane Dello Iacono, State President of the Ladies' Auxiliary, along with State Commander Carl Aiello and their troupes, made the sweep for 1996 dues throughout Western Massachusetts.

The District 7 President reminds all Ladies' Auxiliary members to attend the district meeting in January 1996 at the Chicopee VFW 625. Those in attendance must have their 1996 dues card in their possession.

The President also reminds all auxiliary presidents to mail in their midwinter reports to Joan Winterkorn in Grafton.

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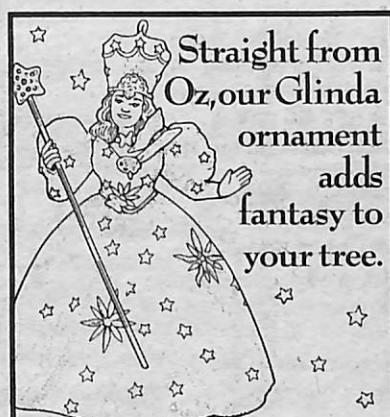
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ADVERTISER NEWS



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Christmas At DeCaro Brothers



BILL RAYMOND is the manager of DeCaro Brothers Nursery on Springfield Street, just before Feeding Hills Center. The nursery has many holiday wreaths and fresh Christmas trees now on sale. The nursery is open seven days a week. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Open Pantry Plans Christmas Eve Dinner

The annual West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry Christmas Eve Dinner is planned for Sunday, December 24th, at the First United Methodist Church, 802 Main Street, West Springfield, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.

The women of the church will be preparing a lasagna dinner, with the salad and bread donated by Don's Deli in Chicopee; a Christmas dessert table rounds out the meal. Last year, 150 people attended the Christmas Eve Dinner.

At the dinner, each adult receives a personal care bag with toothpaste, toothbrush, deodorant, comb, soap, hand and body lotion, chapstick, powder, perfume or a disposable razor and shaving cream, socks, and candy. Also, they are given hats and mittens or gloves.

Especially needed this year to ensure a successful meal are more socks, hats, mittens and gloves for adults, and desserts. Live music and Santa Claus would make it a very special evening.

Following the meal, there is a Christmas Eve Service in the Sanctuary of the First United Methodist Church featuring carols and a candlelight ending. All are welcome at both the dinner and service.

More information can be obtained by calling the West Springfield/Agawam Open Pantry at 734-7969, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Volunteers would also be welcomed.

Ag. Women's Club To Meet Dec. 18th

The Christmas meeting of the Agawam Women's Club will be held on Monday, December 18, 1995 at 7:30 p.m. at the Captain Leonard House. There will be Christmas caroling and a gift exchange.

It isn't too late to bring gifts for our family and for our veterans. Come and bring a friend.

The club's Captain Leonard House tiles will also be for sale. They would make a nice extra gift.

For all the local news, you turn
our pages every week
ADVERTISER NEWS!!!

The Victorian Nail

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Happiness grows on our Holiday Tree

Your gift can make a difference to a special child this season

Each tag on our Holiday Tree represents the wish of a young child whose only gift this season may well be the one WE give.

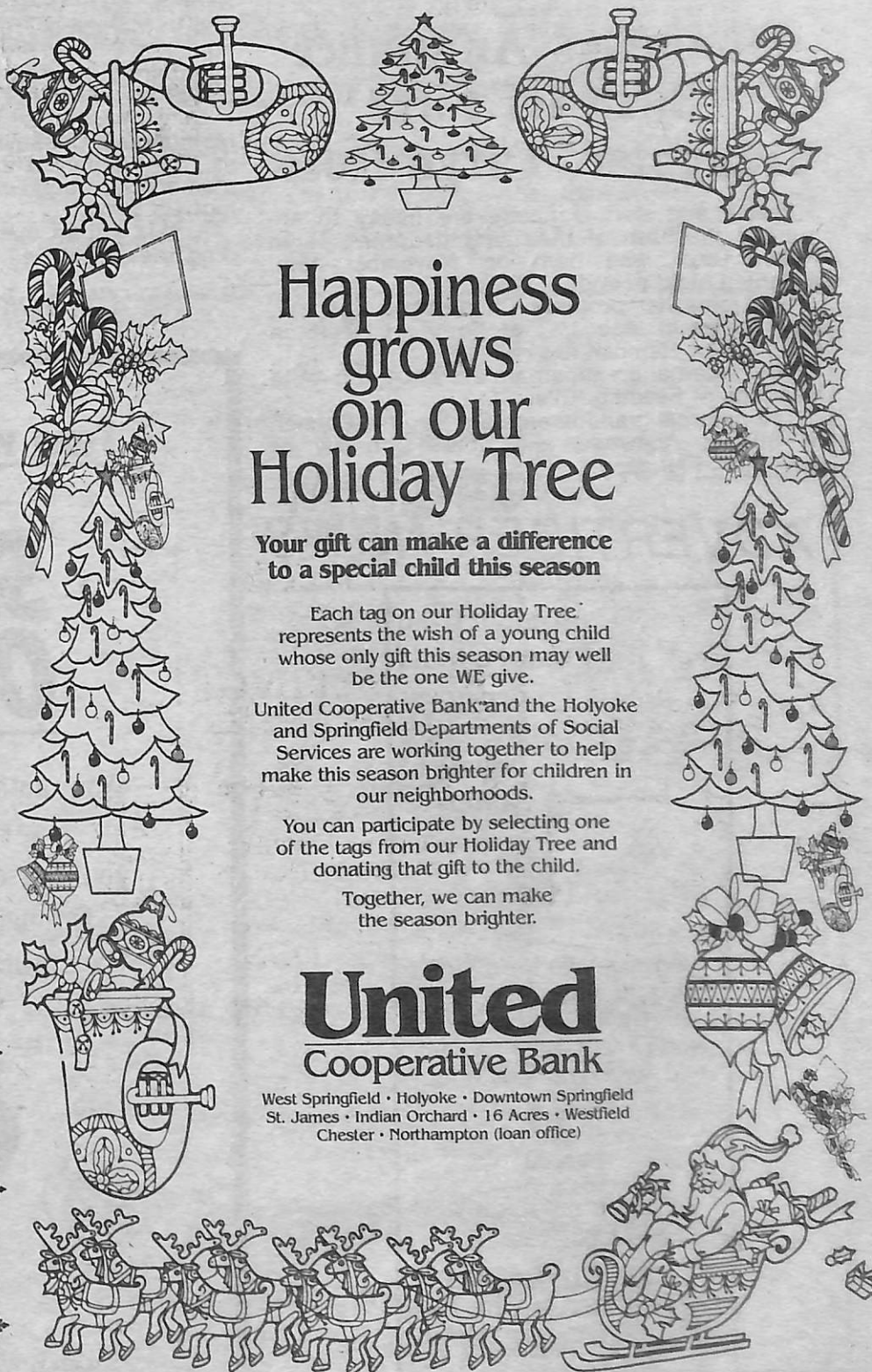
United Cooperative Bank and the Holyoke and Springfield Departments of Social Services are working together to help make this season brighter for children in our neighborhoods.

You can participate by selecting one of the tags from our Holiday Tree and donating that gift to the child.

Together, we can make the season brighter.

United Cooperative Bank

West Springfield • Holyoke • Downtown Springfield
St. James • Indian Orchard • 16 Acres • Westfield
Chester • Northampton (loan office)





BABY KELSEY M. PLANZO

Planzos Welcome New Baby Girl, Kelsey

Jim and Kathy (Hayes) Planzo of 200 Adams Street, Agawam, are pleased to announce the birth of their new daughter, Kelsey Marie Planzo. Kelsey was born October 4, 1995 at 9:17 p.m. at Providence Hospital. She weighed eight pounds, three ounces, and was 20 inches long. Waiting to welcome her home was Kelsey's big brother, Nicholas, age five. The proud grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Louis Planzo, Mrs. Anna Hayes, and the late James Hayes, all of Agawam.

Best local news!!!

Ag. Senior Center's Weekly Lunch Menu

- Monday, December 18th:** Baked chicken leg, potato wedges, peas, oatmeal bread, orange.
 - Tuesday, December 19th:** Apple juice, shepherd's pie, carrot coins, Canadian oat bread, bread pudding.
 - Wednesday, December 20th:** Stuffed cabbage, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables, whole wheat bread, canned apricots.
 - Thursday, December 21st:** Christmas party—pork roast, pan-roasted potatoes, butternut squash, snowflake roll, Christmas cake.
 - Friday, December 22nd:** 9:00 a.m. brunch—orange juice, pancakes, breakfast sausage, hash brown potatoes, fruit cup.
- (Menu subject to change without notice.)



AGAWAM FIRE DEPARTMENT MEMBERS, from left - Richard Weld, Steven Martin (deputy chief), and Karl Schmaelzle (fire association president) are still collecting canned goods for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

“Live Nativity Scene” To Take Place At Covenant Church

Covenant Community Church, located at 112 Amostown Road in West Springfield, will be holding a “Live Nativity Scene” with animals on Saturday, December 23rd, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m., and on Sunday, December 24th, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served. This year, Covenant Community Church is asking people to bring non-perishable food items to be left in designated boxes at the Nativity. These items will be donated to the Open Pantry, an organization that ministers to needy families. What a good way for you to give during the Christmas season!

Agawam Fire Dept. Collects Donations For Open Pantry

The Agawam Fire Department is again accepting food donations for the Agawam/West Springfield Open Pantry. The food items will help those in need during the holiday season. The Fire Department will accept any donation throughout the month of December. The members of the Agawam Fire Department wish to thank all those kind people who have already donated to this worthy cause.

Check our classified pages

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			.51 RD	\$795	\$25				.50	\$249	\$25			
			.72 RD	\$650	\$25				.75	\$395	\$25			
			1.00RD	\$995	\$28				1.00	\$695	\$25			
			1.02 RD	\$1995	\$56				2.00	\$2995	\$84			
			1.50 RD	\$2595	\$73				2.70	\$3995	\$112			
			2.28RD	\$1995	\$56				3.50	\$5995			
			5.11 RD	\$17,950									
			.30 MQ	\$395	\$25									
			.50 MQ	\$995	\$28									
.55 MQ	\$495	\$25												
1.00 MQ	\$1795	\$50												
1.80 MQ	\$4795	\$134												
.50 OV	\$795	\$25												
1.95 OV	\$6900												
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Church News

Annual Holiday Craft Fair At St. John's



(PHOTO TOP LEFT) MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE responsible for the recent Holiday Craft Fair at St. John's Church included, Yadwiga Jarosz, Gloria Oberheim, Charlotte Bodurtha, Paula Raiche (chairwoman), and Marge Disco (co-chairwoman). IN PHOTO TOP RIGHT Weston Charland enjoys a chat with St. Nicholas; IN PHOTO LEFT - more members of the event committee - Celia Menard, Barbara Perry, Lil Doyle, Mickey Adelmo (co-chairwoman), Betsy Ciempa (co-chairwoman), and Pauline Sawyer. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



Rev. McGaw To Assist With Sunday Worship At Ag. Congregational

This Sunday, December 17th, at 10:30 a.m., the Agawam Congregational Church welcomes Rev. Kyle McGaw, the former Minister of the Agawam Methodist Church. He will be preaching and assisting Rev. Curt Fuller in the morning Worship. Rev. McGaw's sermon title will be "Even the Desert Shall Rejoice!" taken from the Text: Isaiah 35:1.

Rev. McGaw was the Pastor at the Agawam United Methodist Church for seven years and now resides in Manchester, Connecticut. His spouse, Corinne Colman, was the Youth Director at the Agawam Congregational Church for the past six years. She and Tina Wright did an excellent job building up the youth program of the church.

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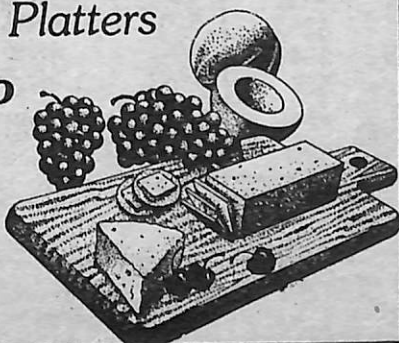
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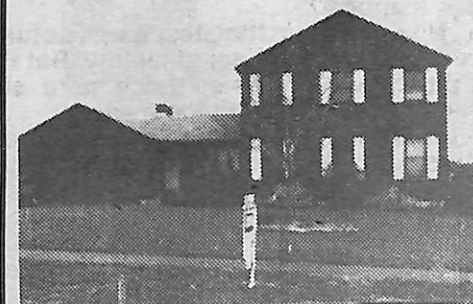
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Church News - continued...



Reflections...

by Reverend
Peter Monahan
Pastor - Church of
the Apostles,
Suffield, CT

Reflecting Upon Jesus' Birth...

The Christmas cards are beginning to appear in the mail these days. Most of the cards which have religious connotations to them have pictures of the Baby Jesus laying in a manger, surrounded by various kinds of animals.

Upon reflection, it is pretty amazing to consider that the Lord of glory, the Son of God who is the Savior of the world, should enter into the world in such humble circumstances. It must be pretty amazing, since none of the prophecies regarding Jesus in the Old Testament make any mention at all about a stable or manger.

The Prophet Isaiah foretold that the Savior would come as a baby, and he mentioned Bethlehem, but not a word about the manger. Perhaps God had tried to tell Isaiah about the part about the manger, but the very thought of it was too much for Isaiah to handle, much less mention to others.

Many people in our world today have gotten past the sense of amazement that One so glorious should be born under such humble circumstances. In fact, one might even go so far as to suggest that perhaps some limit their understanding of the Savior to the Baby Jesus in the manger.

Now, it is true that Jesus was actually born in a manger, that is a fact of history. But it is also true that He was and is so much more, so very much more, than a baby in the manger.

In Isaiah 11:2, we find a description about the Messiah or Savior: "The Spirit of the Lord will rest upon Him, the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord."

Into that brief verse an awesome amount of truth is packed. All the resources of the Almighty are in Christ. Jesus was, and is, fully able to be the Savior of the world; "The Spirit of the Lord rests upon him." The word "rests" might also be translated into "leads" or "guides." The Savior is guided by the same genius Who made the world in the first place.

Wisdom indicates skill or ability, which means the Savior knows how to do things. He has understanding, insight, and good sense. His is the Spirit of counsel, so He is the one to Whom we can turn for advice, to Whom we should submit our plans.

He has the Spirit of power, the ability to actually accomplish His will. He also has the Spirit of knowledge. This is knowledge gained through experience.

Elsewhere the Bible tells us that "since the children have flesh and blood, He too shared in their humanity..." and also that "we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses but we have One Who has been tempted in every way, just as we are - yet without sin."

SEE JESUS' BIRTH - Page 20...

Children's Liturgies Being Prepared At
Sacred Heart Church For Dec. 17th Service

Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills is in the process of preparing children's liturgies for the Third Sunday of Advent (December 17th) and the Christmas Eve service.

The Third Sunday of Advent will be held at the 9:00 a.m. Mass and the Christmas Eve Mass is at 5:30 p.m. on December 24th. Many people are needed to do readings and other jobs. If you are interested, please call Alma Benton at 786-9835.

Young people are needed for the Junior Choir at Sacred Heart Church. Rehearsals are now going on for the church's Christmas Concert and for the Children's Christmas Liturgy.

Rehearsals are on Tuesdays from 4:00-5:00 p.m. This group is for boys and girls from second grade up to and including eighth grade. Parents, please encourage your children to join and use their talents to worship God in song.

The Choir sings twice a month at the 9:00 a.m.

Sunday Liturgy. Joining the Junior Choir is a good way for young people to participate in the Sunday Liturgies. Young voices lifted up in songs of praise and thanksgiving to God really enhances the Liturgy.

If you have any questions, please call Jeannette Denoncourt at 786-6290.

The Catholic Churches of Agawam and Feeding Hills (St. Anthony of Padua, St. John the Evangelist, St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, and Sacred Heart Church) invite you to participate in an Advent Penance Service on Sunday, December 17th at 1:00 p.m. in St. John the Evangelist Church, Main St., Agawam.

Please make an effort to attend this communal gathering so as to enhance your Spiritual Preparation for Christmas.

Additional priests will be available for individual reception of the Sacrament of Penance.

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Regular \$30	Regular \$50	Regular \$30	Regular \$50
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\$15	\$15	2/\$25	2/\$25
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HOURS: Sunday—Friday, 12-9; Saturday, 10-9

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Now Taking Orders For Christmas

Breakfast Sandwiches

Two Eggs, Bacon or Sausage

Breakfast Bagel

Breakfast Sandwich

\$2.60

\$1.99

\$1.85

w/Home Fries & 8 Oz. Cup Of Coffee

Toasted Bagel

with Creme Cheese & Coffee (Plus Refill)

Muffin or Danish with Coffee (Plus Refill)

Coffee 55¢ & 65¢

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We make over 30 scrumptious flavors...

So you can always have a new dessert special.

New Hours:

Monday Through Thursday, 6:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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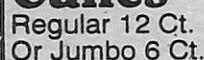
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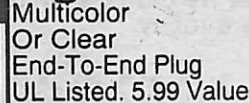
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Final Cost
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4 rolls (75 sq. ft.) - **\$2.49**
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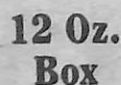
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| 90 Minute. 2-Pack.....

269



169

Til Dec. 17th



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 24 Oz. Assorted Types
• Cashew Halves
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29

299

713 Main Street - Agawam Center

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Church News - continued...

Christmas Concert At Sacred Heart Dec. 17th

The senior and junior choirs of Sacred Heart Church, Feeding Hills, will present their annual Christmas concert on Sunday evening, December 17th, at 7:00 p.m. in the church.

The cantata this year is "This Day of Celebration." Both choirs will perform in this cantata, and a sing-a-long is also included. Some Christmas selections will be sung as solos, duets, and a quartet backed up by the full choir.

The junior choir will sing a few of their own special carols, and two junior choir members will be singing solos this year.

Admission is free, and reception will be held in the Parish Center after the concert. The public is invited.

JESUS' BIRTH - from Page 18...

Some people believe they are all alone in the world, and that nobody truly understands them. Sadly, during the holiday season, these feelings of desperate loneliness are oftentimes even greater. However, the Bible says we are not alone, and there is One Who truly understands us.

Has it ever occurred to you that nothing ever occurs to God? Although our lives are filled with surprises, some good and others bad, our Lord is never surprised by what happens to us. God knows everything about everything.

How many of us actually realize there is nothing about our lives which our Savior doesn't fully comprehend? There is nothing in our past, in our future, or what we are going through right now that he doesn't know all about.

Especially at Christmas, let each of us remember that "For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."

The Son of God began His earthly ministry as a baby in a manger, but he didn't stay there long and He is not still there today.

Please remember that Jack Devine needs at least 48 hours notice to cover your event.

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Many Christmas Events Planned At St. David's Church For Dec. 17-24

* **Sunday, December 17th (Third Sunday in Advent - "Rose Sunday")**

When we rejoice in the grace of God who comes to us. We welcome all visitors to worship as this weekend will be "Each One Reach One" weekend.

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Traditional, Nave.

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist, Middle School (child care available)

Throughout the Sundays of Advent, our Sunday School will make decorations for our Angel Tree, which provides gifts for needy children. We will also construct the Parish Paper Chain, which will include the name of every active member. This "Chain" will be hung at the rear of the Nave for Christmas services. For our homebound members, we will be making special greetings. This will be a fun time to learn about the true meaning of the holidays.

Everyone is invited to join us in song Sunday afternoon as we carol in the neighborhood of our church building on Cleveland Street. We will sing from 4:00 - 4:45 p.m., and finish with refreshments.

* **Daily, Monday to Friday, December 18th-22nd**

9:00 a.m. Church Office open to noon

8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer, Nave (Tu-Thu)

6:45 p.m. Evening Prayer (Tu-Thu)

* **Monday, December 18th**

7:00 p.m. Junior Youth Group, continuing preparation for the Christmas Pageant being performed by our children grades K-4. This event will be presented at our 5:00 p.m. Service on Christmas Eve.

7:30 p.m. Healing Prayers, Nave.

* **Wednesday, December 20th**

7:00 p.m. Advent Study Series continues, as we consider "Jesus, Then and Now." This week we

will look at some of the miracles of Jesus.

* **Thursday, December 21st**

9:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study, Upper Hall
11:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST - Heritage Hall West, please join us as we celebrate Holy Communion with our friends. Children are especially encouraged to come.

* **Saturday, December 23rd**

7:00 a.m. Men's Study, Smith Room

10:00 a.m. Angel Tree. Those wishing to become Angels by delivering gifts to the children as part of the Prison Fellowship "Angel Tree" program are encouraged to meet at the Church Building.

* **Sunday, December 24th (Fourth Sunday in Advent)**

Will be observed by two brief services of Morning Prayer and Hymns. A traditional service at 8:00 a.m., and a contemporary service at 10:00 a.m. At 10:45 we will gather for "The Greening Of The Nave" in preparation for our evening services. **Christmas Eve**, observed by two services of Holy Communion. The Family Service with the Christmas Pageant and Child Care at 5:00 p.m., and the Candlelight Service at 11:00 p.m. All services will be held at the Church Building at 522 Springfield Street this Sunday. Come Celebrate our Savior's Birth.

DURING THE SEASON OF ADVENT, focus on being ready for the arrival of our Lord in our world, and in our lives. "The Word Became Flesh..." (John 1:14). The Reverend Len Cowan continues a sermon series expounding the most profound statement of all times. December 16th-17th "The Word of Grace." Join us weekly through Christmas for "The Word."

Harvest Assembly Of God Has Christmas Program On Dec. 17th

Pastor Chuck Schivley and the church family of the Harvest Assembly of God church invite you to an extraordinary Christmas program entitled "It's The Truth Ruth ... It's Christmas!"

It will be held at the church at 121 Union St. in West Springfield this Sunday, December 17th at 10:30 a.m. Admission is free and there is a nursery available for infants. Minister of Music, Ted Metayer, Jr., will be directing the program.

What does the birth of a baby 2,000 years ago have to do with the crisis of broken relationships

that many families are experiencing today? Using an Old Testament story and a Messianic prophecy, this Christmas musical tells us that in addition to redeeming nations and saving souls, Jesus came to restore relationships within families.

Through a series of events, a father and a son will have an encounter that will change both their lives and their relationship as never before.

For more information, please contact the church at (413) 739-1234.

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Member: Agawam Board of Health

Former Professor: STCC

Former Clinical Consultant: STCC

Stephen Jacaparo, DMD

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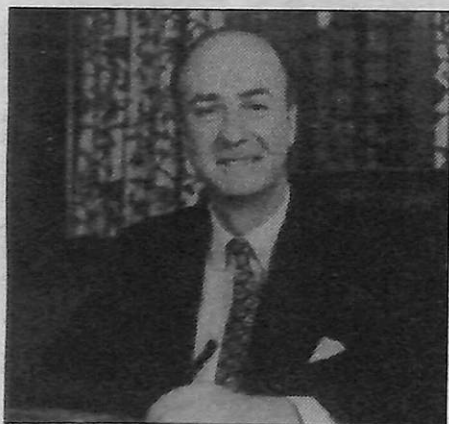


It's true! This week, Hampden Savings' customers are receiving bonus interest payments totalling \$425,000. For the sixth time in recent history, we are issuing bonus interest payments to depositors having any type of interest-earning account: regular savings, CD, NOW, Money Market, IRA.

The amount of each bonus check is equal to the average monthly interest earned during the first 10 months of 1995. For example, if accumulated interest from January through October was \$900, the bonus check will be \$90. Payments under \$5 will be credited to accounts.

Why the bonus payments? Our policy is to share—when we can—the rewards of a successful year with those most responsible for it. Few banks can say the same. But Hampden Savings is a *mutual* savings bank and, as such, has no stockholders to whom a portion of profits are paid. Instead, for the past 143 years we have operated solely for the benefit of our customers.

Since 1988 Hampden has been able to distribute more than \$2 million in bonus interest to our savings customers. So, once again, the checks are in the mail, with our thanks.



Mutually beneficial. It has real meaning here.

We believe customer loyalty is the foundation of our financial strength. After all, customers' deposits are the source of our business. Our job is to make those savings dollars work productively for our customers and, at the same time, provide prudent stewardship of their deposits. We see the bonus payment as a sound business practice that is mutually beneficial.

Thomas R. Burton

Thomas R. Burton, President and CEO
Hampden Savings Bank

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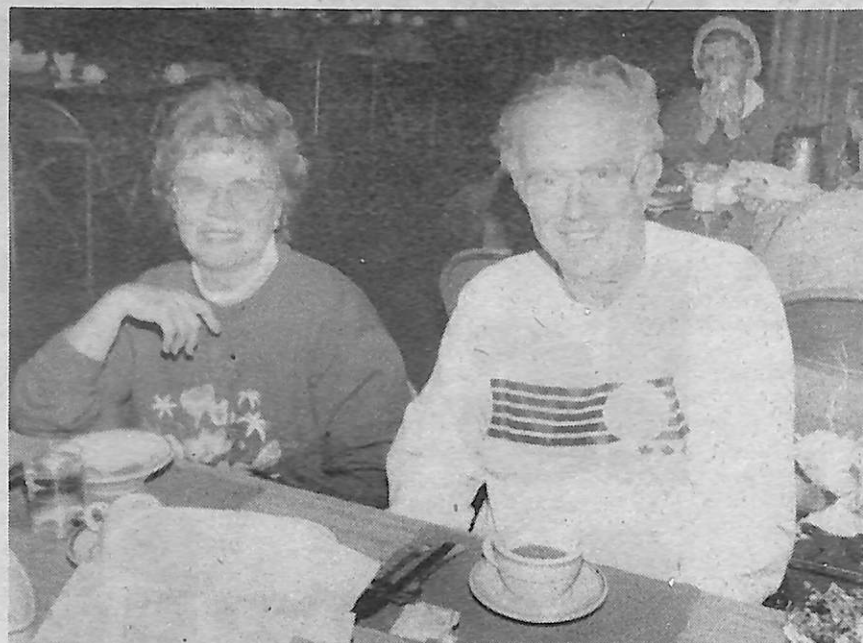
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Church News - continued...

Operation Friendship Holds Another Roast Beef Dinner



THE LOCAL CHAPTER OF OPERATION FRIENDSHIP held another of its popular roast beef dinners at the Feeding Hills Congregational Church on Saturday, December 2nd. IN PHOTO LEFT, Matt Couture volunteered his services at the gift table. IN PHOTO RIGHT, Jeanne & Dick Sardella of Feeding Hills have just finished what they called a great meal. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Activities & Events At Ag. United Methodist

Special end-of-the-year services have been scheduled at the Agawam United Methodist Church.

On Sunday, December 17th, the third Advent Service will take place 9:30 a.m., with the youth of the church participating in Scripture reading and drama.

Also this Sunday, a youth celebration of the Holy Baptism will begin at 4:00 p.m.

On Sunday, December 24th, there will be a Worship Service at 9:30 a.m., as well as a traditional Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m., and a Christmas Communion Service at 11:00 p.m.

These Christmastime services provide an opportunity for Christians to renew a close relationship with Christ as His birth is celebrated.



MEMBERS OF THE OPERATION FRIENDSHIP KITCHEN CREW are kept working hard by Jerry Couture (in back, brandishing a wire whisk). On the serving line are Jackie Gilmartin, Debbie Donaldson, and Bill Rose. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Church Of The Bible Extends Invitation To Christmas Services

The Agawam Church of the Bible welcomes community residents to join them for upcoming Christmas services.

On Sunday, December 17th, the children will present the Christmas drama "News Flash from Bethlehem," written by Alda Blinow. The drama gives a simple picture of how the television media might have covered the birth of Jesus.

The service, which will be held at the Agawam Junior High School, begins at 10:00 a.m., and a nursery is provided for small children. All are invited to stick around after the performance for refreshments.

On Christmas Eve, the church will have a special morning service at 10:00 a.m., featuring music and readings. An annual Christmas Eve tradition will be included: the singing of Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*.

The service, also at the Junior High School, will conclude around 11:00 a.m. with Christmas refreshments.

For more information, please call 789-2904.

Baked Ham And Bean Dinner Slated At Ag. Methodist Church

Agawam Methodist Church will hold a baked ham and bean supper on December 16th at 5:30 p.m.

Seniors are only \$5, and all others are \$6.

The menu will be comprised of baked ham, homemade baked beans, baked potato, vegetable, and assorted desserts.

For reservations, call the church at 786-4174 or Dana Henry at 789-0684.

Carl and Paula Bernier head the committee, assisted by Dick and Jean Ainey, Linda Nelson, Dana and Lynn Henry, Carmen and Tobias Gomez, Fran Camyre, Paul Broz, Ken Borowski, and Barbara Michma.

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*Church News - continued...***Holiday Bazaar Held At St. Theresa's Church**

ATTENDING THE ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR at St. Theresa's Church in North Agawam included, from left - Carolyn Cortis, Pat Benoit, Rita S. Rose, Barbara Racicot, Mary Beth Jamroz, and Rita Scagliarini. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

All the local news with us, each week!

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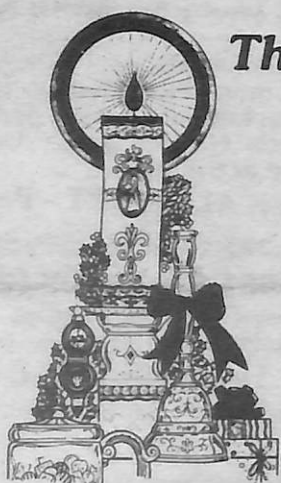
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Happy Holidays

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Whole	\$1.99 Lb.
Shank Half	\$2.69 Lb.
Butt Half	\$2.19 Lb.
Blue Seal Kielbasa	\$2.39 Lb.
Fresh Ground Pork	\$1.99 Lb.
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5 Lbs. Or More	\$1.79 Lb.
10 Lbs. Or More	\$1.59 Lb.
Skinless & Boneless Chicken Breast	\$2.69 Lb.
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Land O' Lakes White American Cheese	\$2.89 Lb.
Russer German Bologna	\$1.19 Lb.
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Margerita Genoa Salami	\$2.99 Lb.
Austrian Alps Imported Swiss Cheese	\$2.99 Lb.
Russer Low Salt Ham	\$3.49 Lb.

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Sweet Life 1% Low Fat Milk (Gallon)	\$1.99
Hood Heavy Cream (Pints)99¢
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Iceburg Lettuce	89¢ Hd.
California Celery Hearts (Bunch)	\$1.19
Fresh Yams	69¢ Lb.
Washington State Red Or Golden Delicious Apples	69¢ Lb.
California Navel Oranges (Jumbo Size)	2/\$1.00
Fancy Florida Pink Grapefruit	69¢ Each

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Cooked Tail-On Shrimp (31-40 Count)	\$8.99 Lb.
Bonaventure Shrimp Ring (12 Oz. Pkg.)	\$7.99
Fresh Frozen Swordfish Steaks	\$3.99 Lb.
Frozen Can Lobster (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$9.99
Frozen Snow Crab Meat (11.3 Oz. Can)	\$4.99



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Fresh Pies**

Any
Size





Spotlight On Business

All Mart Flea Market Hoping To Bring New Business To Southgate

by Peggy Shoemaker
Advertiser News Feature Writer

The happiest and most optimistic man in Agawam must be Gary Gerageio, owner and operator of the **ALL MART Flea Market** on Suffield Street (in the Southgate Plaza where the Ames Dept. store chain once had a store).

A glance at the parking lot of the plaza on any Saturday or Sunday will expose the reason for his joy. There is not a parking space to be had, and autos are cruising around waiting for a vehicle to pull out so they can get a space. The alternative is parking in front of the former Big Y building and walking to **ALL MART**.

Gerageio believes he has brought the plaza "back to life," and that there are only better days coming. So it would seem.

He has a one-year lease on the building with a five-year option. The flea market is comprised of 240 vendors, and Gerageio says he has room for 22 more (at presstime). He rents space to the vendors (who are actually private businessmen who hire their own help). Collectively, they show for sale innumerable items—new and used, produce, and antiques—and the market is always changing.

Gerageio is happy because he has created jobs and brought low-cost items to the public. Many of the vendors are from Agawam, and since it is a weekend business, they can work at other jobs all week. He said that neighbors and some retired people dropped in all summer to observe, encourage, and offer to help as the store underwent renovations.

A salesman all his life, Gerageio said he worked for a car dealership and then became involved in marketing by selling novelty items, greeting cards, gifts, etc. He eventually began searching for a new business concept.

Noting the vacant space at the Holyoke Plaza where K-Mart is located - formerly Mammoth Mart, with parking for 500 cars—he developed a concept for renting stalls to individuals for sales and making money. With no cash himself, he brought his plan to the owners in Old Beth Page, New York. He said they were enthusiastic and gave him the green light.

Gerageio said he had a contract, but no lease. He opened the flea market with 300 vendors and



GARY GERAGEIO (photo left) is the owner and operator of the All Mart Flea Market at the Southgate Shopping Plaza (in the former Ames building). Gary hopes his business will over the long run help all the businesses in the Suffield Street Plaza. **IN PHOTO LEFT, Claire Anischik and Marlene Peloquin** look over a rack of sports jackets. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.



envisioned a separate family entertainment center.

A native of Springfield, Gerageio nevertheless commented, "You have to be delicate when you market in New England. You have to walk soft, have patience, and show them."

Gerageio claims that the Holyoke Board of Aldermen told him he needed a permit that he was not aware of. He applied and the board voted it down by one vote, he said, and he was out of business.

A Flea Market Concept For Southgate Plaza

Jack R. Stanley Realty Company, owner of the Southgate Plaza, heard the story, Gerageio said, and asked him to draw up a flea market concept suitable to the Southgate Plaza. He was thrilled and set to work. The owners agreed to all new signs in the plaza, and gave him a one-year lease with a five-year option.

Gerageio hired people in the summer to paint,

clean, and build stalls. He expects to improve the mart and make it more attractive as time and funds permit. He wants bright colors, good advertising, and promotion. He will "spice it up" with special exhibits and activities.

SEE ALL MART - Page 28...

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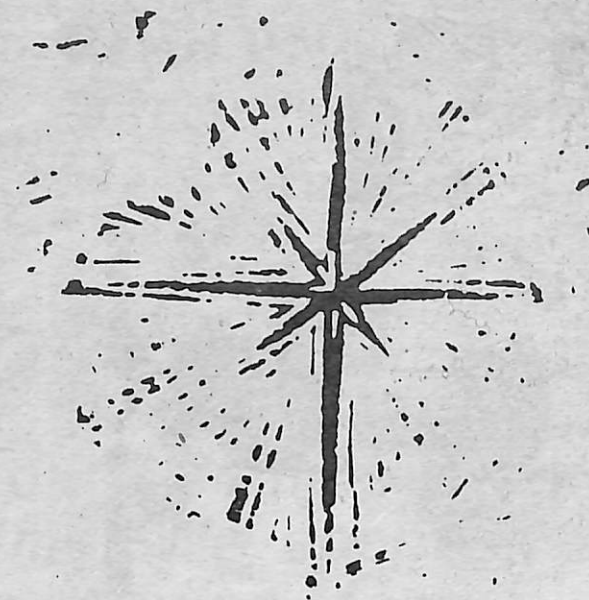


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John 1:9

December 23

5:00PM Eucharist

December 24

8:00AM Morning Prayer

10:00AM Morning Prayer

5:00PM Family Service &
Christmas Pageant
(child care available)

11:00PM Candlelight Service

All services meet at 522 Springfield Street



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Spotlight On Business - continued...



IDEAS BY ME is one of the many vendors at the giant All Mart Flea Market inside the former Ames Dept. Store building at the Southgate Shopping Plaza. Pictured above are Mary Vaughn & Elizabeth Hoy. Their handmade crafts cost between \$5 and \$20. **RELATED PHOTOS AND STORY IN THIS SECTION.** Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

ALL MART FLEA MARKET - from Page 26

Buckland Antiques of Westfield has loaned about a dozen antique sleighs (the kind once used for travel), and they are positioned in the wide aisles. Gerageio said they will be decorated for Christmas, lending atmosphere.

In the northeast corner of the flea market is a small lunchroom with half a dozen tables that are separated from the mall by latticework. It offers coffee, hot chocolate, soda, donuts, pastry, and grinders.

As one strolls the aisles, delightful and often unexpected articles come into view. It might be the dishes you want to complete a set, holiday sweatshirts and sweaters, painted and unpainted furniture, clocks on guitar shapes, wall pictures that are treasures, shoes, jewelry, holiday decorations, homemade bread, and a huge fresh vegetable stand, and on and on.

Gerageio bubbles over with optimism when he talks about **ALL MART**, which he calls "**THE GREAT NEW ENGLAND FLEA MARKET.**"

Century 21

by
John Schuler
Real Estate
Consultant

Newschu Real Estate, Inc.
820 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA



Be Protected Against Cold, Ice, And Snow

Winters are back with a vengeance. With temperatures already dipping below 20 degrees at this time of year, potential homebuyers in the Northeast (many of them first-time homebuyers) may wonder what they should be looking for when hunting for a warm new home.

One of the first things to investigate when looking at a home is the insulation. Improper insulation can lead to heat loss, frozen pipes, and leakage when ice begins to melt. Many homeowners like to see at least six inches of insulation (or equivalent) in the walls, and at least 12 inches in the ceilings. Many homeowners are tempted to install even more insulation, but it can become costly. Most modern insulation brands are effective; the "R" value is the most important factor.

Gutters, which most homeowners view as an important means of water drainage, can at times be a detriment. A frozen gutter causes leakage

and serious water damage in the home. Heating tape placed around the gutters can help to prevent freezing.

Homeowners and potential homebuyers should look carefully at windows and door jams—drafts are the leading cause of energy loss in a home. Windows should be double-glazed and have strong seals. Wooden windows are often preferred to metal because metal transfers the cold into the home.

The basement of a home needs to have proper drainage so that water, snow, and ice pressure will not build up around the home's foundation. Don't forget spring thaw, too.

If the house is located at the base of a hill, swales for drainage need to be situated as far away from the foundation as possible. Second only to fire, water damage due to freezing and improper drainage is the real enemy of the homeowner.

As your professional real estate agent will advise you, knowing what to look for to determine whether a home is winter-ready is beneficial to both the potential homebuyer and the person who is planning to sell a home.

To a professional real estate agent, a home that has been carefully weather-proofed with proper insulation; tight, double-glazed windows; proper drainage; and landscaping to draw melting snow away from a home's foundation, brings a higher selling price.

In fact, many real estate agents often recommend that sellers carefully review their homes with the buyer in mind. If they have a formal inspection done by a professional home inspector before they put the house on the market, they can fix problems before a potential buyer finds them. Those sellers with professional inspection reports might give a copy to the potential homebuyer for added confidence and incentive.

(John Schuler is the broker/owner of **CENTURY 21 Newschu Real Estate, Inc.**, located in the Southgate Plaza, Agawam, MA [413-789-1117].)

Springfield Chapter Of The IMA To Meet On December 20th

The next meeting of the Springfield Chapter of the IMA (Institute of Management Accountant) will take place on Wednesday, December 20th, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Storowton Tavern, located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition (1305 Memorial Drive, West Springfield).

The speaker will be Ken Wiseman, PDS/Worldwide, and his topic will be "Motivational Attitude and Tasking."

The cost is \$15 for members, and non-members and guests are welcome.

This meeting will also feature the local IMA's annual Christmas party. Bring a gift, and write "unisex," "male," or "female" on the outside. (The suggested dollar range is \$5 to \$10.)

Join us for a festive time! For reservations, call Peter Hanson, (413) 786-2355.

The Springfield Chapter of the IMA serves Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut.

Robert Kenney Joins Landry, Lyons, Whyte

Laurence D. Landry, President of **LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co.** (Better Homes and Gardens), announces that Robert Kenney has joined the firm's Feeding Hills office as a Sales Associate.

Bob holds a bachelor's degree from Northeastern University and a master's degree from Western New England College. In his free time, he has participated in the Springfield Symphony Chorus and the Westfield Festival Chorus.

We are pleased that Bob has chosen **LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co.** to pursue a career in real estate.

LANDRY, LYONS & WHYTE Co. (Better Homes and Gardens) is the largest real estate firm in the Pioneer Valley and has over 225 salespeople and 11 offices with locations in East Longmeadow, Springfield, Sixteen Acres, Palmer, Chicopee, Feeding Hills, South Hadley, Longmeadow, West Springfield, Westfield, and Wilbraham.

For further information, please contact Laurence D. Landry at (413) 782-6000.

You turn our pages every week
for all the local news!!!



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Spotlight On Business - continued...



"From The Tax Attorney"

by
Paul Louis Mancinone
Certified Public
Accountant
Attorney At Law
(203) 668-6559

Estate Planning Is More Than Death And Taxes

Many people don't think they're wealthy enough to be concerned about estate taxes. Thus, it would appear logical to conclude there is no reason to worry about estate planning. Unfortunately, this is one of the many myths of estate planning. I hope in this article together we can dispel just some of these myths.

Estate planning is not just about saving taxes at death. Most importantly, it is about ensuring that your property is passed on in a manner consistent with your desires.

A will, for example, is an important part of estate planning. Many people believe that the state laws governing distributions at death (known as intestacy laws) will suffice and ensure proper disposition. I often wonder how many people without wills have even discussed these issues with their attorney.

For example, if a married couple have a child, and both parents pass away without a will directing who will be legal guardian of that child, the court and/or state welfare department may decide for them. While presumably qualified to make the right decision, should this decision be left to a governmental agency?

But I'm not wealthy!

Not wealthy enough? Who is? The federal estate tax generally applies to taxable estates over \$600,000 (a "unified credit" generally shelters the first \$600,000). Sound like a lot?

A home worth \$200,00, a rental property worth \$100,000, and life insurance of \$500,000 (owned by the insured) combine to equal \$800,000. That's how easy it is to get over \$600,000.

Although there are deductions for debts, etc., this could be a couple in their early 30's. What's the value 35 years from now? What about savings, retirement, personal property, etc.? These, too, may be included in the taxable estate.

What's the worse that can happen?

Don't ever ask that to a CPA, or a lawyer! No estate plan! Let's take a married couple.

If the wage earner dies, how will the spouse afford college for the children? What if the wage earner becomes disabled? What if the parents die simultaneously? What if a spouse dies and the other later remarries? What will the relationship be between the "new spouse" and the children of the deceased?

Check our classified...

It would be nice to ensure that the children would be provided for as well as if the deceased did not die. Estate planning can, to a great extent, resolve some of these issues.

Now is it really just death and taxes?

Let's agree that estate planning is more than that. In many ways it's about quality of life. The quality of life for loved ones upon one's death, or even disability.

The security of knowing that should the unfortunate occur, the children can still attend college, and live productive lives.

Please consult with your attorney about this very important issue.

Kevin Pfau Named To Director's Post At Mass. Mutual Co.

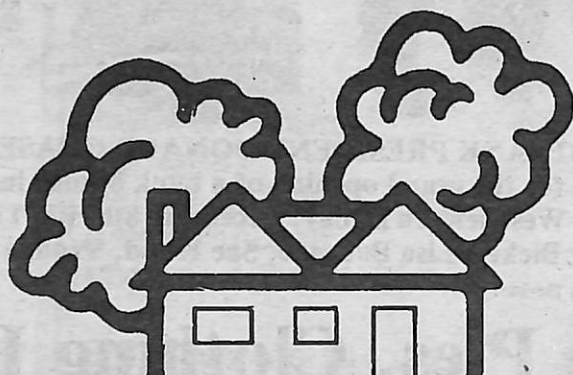
Kevin M. Pfau of Feeding Hills has been named director of the corporate technology group in the Information Systems division of the Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company.

A native of Agawam, MA, Mr. Pfau is a graduate of Boston College with a bachelor of science degree.

He joined MassMutual in 1984.

Please remember our deadline is every Tuesday at noontime. We open at 6:30 a.m. We appreciate copy on Monday!

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BARGAIN MATINEES DAILY \$4.50 All Seats (Before 6PM)

Blue In The Face [R] - 1:50, 2:40, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

Carrington [R] - 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Nick Of Time [R] - 1:30, 3:25, 5:15, 7:10, 10:05

Gold Diggers [PG] - 1:30, 3:30, 5:30

How To Make An American Quilt [PG-13] - 7:30, 9:50

The Big Green [PG] - 1:30, 3:35, 5:45

Devil In A Blue Dress [R] - 7:45, 9:50

Home For The Holidays [PG-13] - 2:05, 4:30, 7:20, 9:35

Babe [G] - 1:35, 3:30, 5:30

Dangerous Minds [R] - 7:30, 9:45

Powder [PG-13] - 1:40, 3:45, 5:45, 7:50, 10:00

Now And Then [PG-13] - 1:50, 4:15, 7:05, 9:25

Vampire In Brooklyn [R] - 1:55, 4:25, 7:15, 9:30

Copycat [R] - 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35

Seven [R] - 1:55, 4:30, 7:05, 9:40

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- The latest in Projection and Sound Technology with Spectral Recording Dolby Stereo • Computerized Box Office Centers
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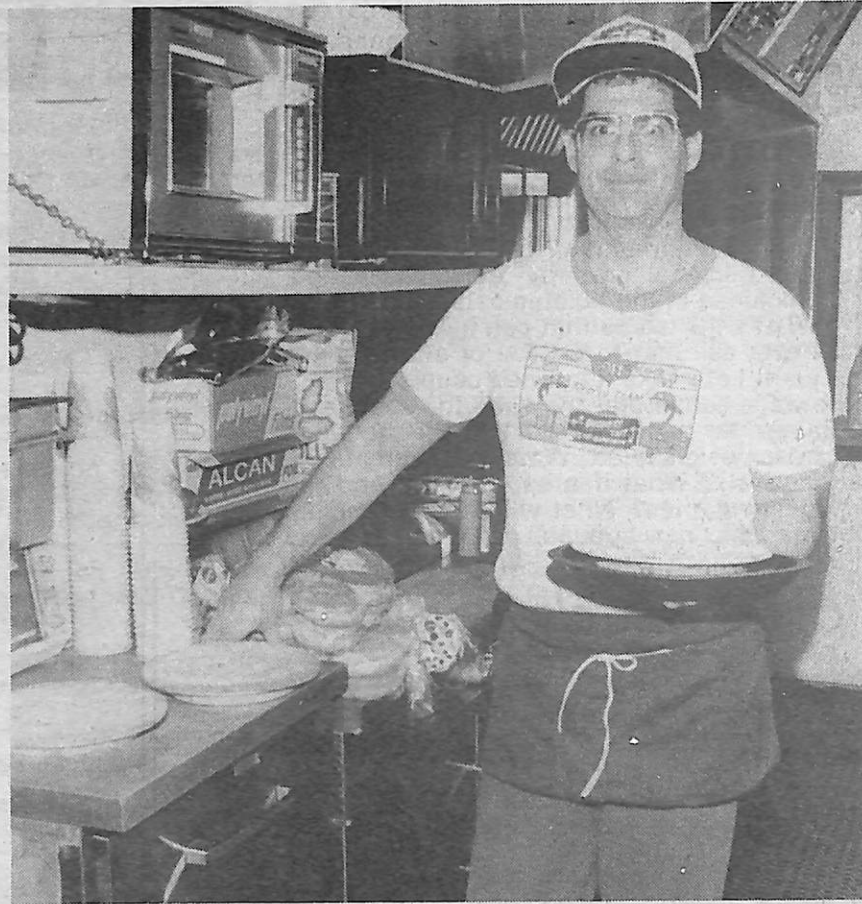
Spotlight On Business - continued...

Grand Opening Day For WestBank At Edward's



WESTBANK PRESIDENT DONALD CHASE (center) and a host of bank officials were on hand for the grand opening of a bank branch inside the Edward's Food Warehouse on Route 20 in Westfield on Friday, December 8th. **PICTURED IN PHOTO LEFT** is the branch staff - Betty Bieker, Lisa Bourque, Sue Hood, Yvonne Goucher and Faye Krainson. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

Homemade Pies, Clothing Line At 911 Burgers & Dogs



DINO MERCADANTE OF 911 BURGERS & DOGS on the corner of North Westfield and North West Streets is quite busy with his family this year. The Mercadantes are not only making their famous homemade pies (call 786-6800) but they have also expanded their business to include a new line of clothing (inside the eatery), including hats, shirts, and sweatshirts. Stop by today. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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F.H., MA 01030

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911 Burgers & Dogs
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"Leave Your Diet At Home"

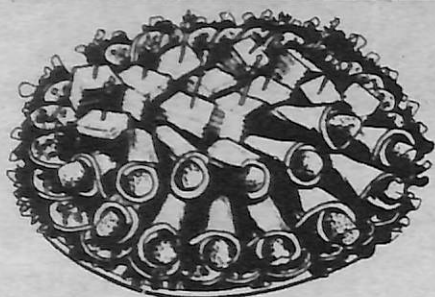
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TRAY NO. 1
Rare Roast Beef
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White Meat Turkey Breast
American and
Imported Swiss Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$30.00
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$45.50

TRAY NO. 4
Rare Roast Beef
Genoa Salami
White Meat Turkey Breast
Imported Ham
Swiss Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$30.50
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$44.50

TRAY NO. 6
Imported Ham
Bologna
Genoa Salami
American and
Imported Swiss Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$24.50
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$36.50

TRAY NO. 3
Rare Roast Beef
Imported Ham
Genoa Salami
Provolone and
Imported Swiss Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$29.00
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$44.50

TRAY NO. 5
Rare Roast Beef
Corn Beef
Baked Ham
White Meat Turkey Breast
Imported Swiss Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$30.50
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$45.95

TRAY NO. 8
Rare Roast Beef
Imported Ham
White Meat Turkey Breast
Imported Style Mortadella
American Cheese

Small Serves 10 to 12 \$26.50
Large Serves 17 to 20 \$40.50

FINGER SANDWICHES

Shrimp Salad \$11.95 Doz.
Seafood Salad \$11.95 Doz.
Chicken Salad \$8.95 Doz.
Tuna Salad \$8.95 Doz.
Ham Salad \$8.50 Doz.
Egg Salad \$7.95 Doz.

(Minimum Order — 3 Dozen)

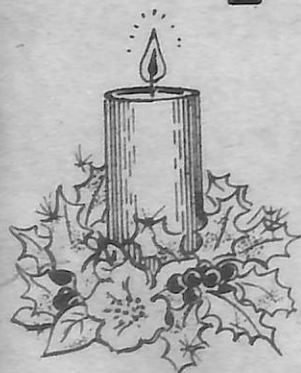
HOT & COLD COMPLIMENTS

Garden Salad (serves 10-12) \$10.99
Greek Salad (serves 10-12) \$12.99
Antipasto Salad (serves 10-12) \$16.99
Hot Cocktail Sausage \$1.25/person
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Seagrams 7 \$9.99 * 1.75 Ltr. * After Rebate	Bud Reg. - Light - Ice 30 Paks \$12.99 * * After Rebate	Scoresby Scotch \$12.99 * 1.75 Ltr. * After Rebate	Michelob Reg. & Light 18 Paks \$9.99 Plus Deposit
Kahlua 750 ml. \$10.99 * 750 ml. Collector Btl. * After Rebate	Seagrams VO 1.75 Ltr. \$12.99 * * After Rebate	Rolling Rock Reg. & Light \$13.99 Plus Deposit Case - 24 Btls.	Absolut Vodka \$20.99 1.75 Ltr.
Freinet Imported Spumante \$4.99 * 750 ml. * After Rebate	Busch Reg. & Light \$10.99 Plus Deposit 24-Can Case	Seagrams Gin 1.75 Ltr. \$8.99 * * After Rebate	Genesee Cream Ale & Ice \$7.99 * 30-Pack Cans * After Rebate
Beefeater Gin \$20.99 1.75 Ltr.	Lite Ice 30 Pack \$14.99 Plus Deposit	Miller 30 Pack \$12.99 Plus Deposit	Riunite All Flavors \$8.99 * Giant 3 Ltrs. * After Rebate
Smirnoff Reusable "Crystal" Decanter \$9.99 750 ml.	Clan MacGregor Scotch \$12.99 * 1.75 Ltr. * After Rebate	Red Dog Icehouse 16 Oz. Wide Mouth \$14.99 Plus Deposit	Castillo Imported Rum 1.75 Ltr. \$12.99
Coors Reg. & Light \$14.49 Plus Deposit 30-Pack Cans	Ballatore Gran Spumante \$4.49 * 750 ml. * After Rebate	Gallo Varietals Save \$1.00 On All Flavors 1.5 Ltrs.	Crown Royal 1.75 Ltr. \$29.95



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Bring in any competitors coupon and receive an additional 10% OFF any tire or service Purchase!

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With Coupon
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Basic Brake Service

- Install premium pads or shoes
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- Road test vehicle

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Disc or Drum Per Axle

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Blackwall	Price	Blackwall	Price
185/70R13	\$65.99	195/70R14	\$79.99
185/70R14	\$66.99	205/70R14	79.99
185/60R14	79.99	205/70R15	82.99
185/65R14	82.99	215/70R14	84.99
195/65R14	84.99	215/70R15	87.99
195/60R14	85.99	205/55R16	120.99
195/65R15	86.99	215/60R16	110.99
195/60R15	89.99	225/60R16	111.99
205/60R15	89.99	225/60R15	108.99
205/65R15	90.99	235/60R15	119.99
215/60R15	95.99	225/R6016	129.99
215/65R15	100.99	225/55R16	130.99

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P185/70R13	56.99	P225/75R15	71.99
P185/70R14	56.99	P235/75R15	73.99
P185/75R14	51.99	P235/70R15	76.99
P195/75R14	51.99	P215/70R15	61.99
P205/75R14	57.99	P205/70HR14	74.99
P205/75R15	58.99	P225/70HR15	76.99

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P185/75R14 32.99
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P205/75R14 35.99
P205/75R15 36.99
P215/75R15 38.99
P235/75R15 41.99

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IMPORT

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Blackwall Price
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165R13 35.99
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185/70R13 39.99
185/70R14 41.99
195/70R14 44.99
205/70R14 46.99

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White Letters Price
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P185/70R14 48.99
P195/70R13 52.99
P195/70R14 54.99
P205/70R14 58.99
P215/60R14 57.99
P215/65R15 68.99

35,000 MILE LIMITED WARRANTY

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White Letters Price
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For Your Health



Living Well

by Rick Hersom
Fitness Director
Fitness First Health
and Fitness Center
60 N. Westfield St., F.H.
(413) 786-1460

A Christmas Gift

Christmas is closing in on us. The day is approaching and time to shop is quickly passing by. If you are like me, you have not even started shopping yet.

Where is the fun in getting your shopping done ahead of time? Do not worry about the long lines, the lack of parking, or how much you have to spend. Do not get stressed out about what you are going to buy your significant other, friends, or family. I have the perfect idea for you.

Give them the gift that will keep giving for the rest of their lives, give them good health, give them peace of mind, give them protection, give them freedom and independence, give them fun!

You're probably wondering how you're going to afford all of these gifts and have anything left over for the other 11 people on your 'to buy list.' The good news is that it is not expensive, and it will not take long to wrap at all.

So, what is this incredible gift? What can change your life so drastically and the lives of those around you? Exercise, of course! To name just a few ideas: how about skis, skates, mountain bike, a personal trainer, swim goggles, a stationary bike or treadmill, in-line skates, walking sneakers, weights for the house, tennis racket, golf or health club membership, hiking boots, a frisbee, or dance lessons.

The list is endless. It can be inexpensive, it is fun, and it is going to give paybacks for the rest of your life. From my line of reasoning, there is not a better gift to be found anywhere.

Do yourself a favor, do the ones you love a favor; give the gift that keeps on giving.

December Health Screenings Slated At Mercy Hospital

The Department of Patient Education at Mercy Hospital in Springfield will conduct two health screenings during December:

* **Cholesterol screening** - December 28th, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Memorial House Auditorium; \$10 donation.

* **Blood glucose screening** - December 29th, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Memorial House Auditorium; \$2 donation.

No advance registration is required; however, fasting for 12 hours (water is allowed) prior to testing is required. Results will be mailed to participants.

For more information, call the Patient Education Department, (413) 748-9024, weekdays between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m., or leave a message.

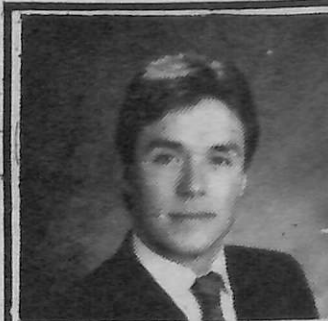
"Better Breathers" Support Group To Meet At Mercy Hosp.

"Better Breathers," a monthly pulmonary support group, will conduct its next monthly meeting on December 20th from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Deliso Conference Center at Mercy Hospital in Springfield.

The group, sponsored by the Weldon Center for Rehabilitation at Mercy in conjunction with the American Lung Association, invites people with lung disease and their families to attend the afternoon of sharing and learning about living with lung disease. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, call Linda Chastain, (413) 748-9610.

best
local
news



Your Back And Your Health

by Dr. Joseph
S. Schlaffer
Schlaffer
Chiropractic Offices
192 Shoemaker Lane
Agawam

Be Careful Of "Ice"!!!

Question: A recent slip on a patch of ice found me lying flat on my back. My neck snapped, and I hurt for a while.

Luckily, nothing was broken. Now, I'm starting to get neck pain with headaches, and it seems that my fingers are falling asleep.

Is this something I should see a chiropractor for?

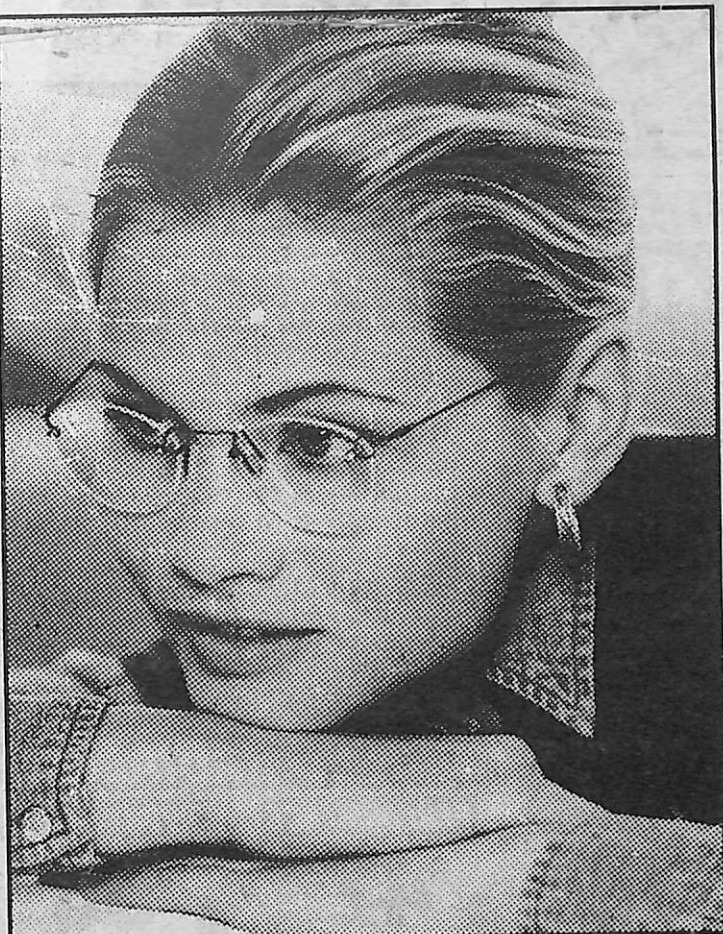
Answer: Yes!

Everyone knows how damaging a fall on the ice can be. You might suffer a concussion. It can cause an elderly person to break a hip or fracture an arm.

Less obvious is disturbance to the spinal vertebrae. What you are describing is a fall significant enough to damage supportive tissue and misalign spinal vertebrae. This compresses or pinches nerves that exit from the spine, resulting in headache and numbness in the arms/hands.

When vertebrae remain in an abnormal position for a period of time, they begin to heal that way. Splinting occurs and the area becomes prone to degenerative changes and weakness. The longer you wait, the more difficult to correct.

If you understand the less obvious condition of misaligning the spine and its effect on your health, you're one step ahead! Once found, correction through appropriate chiropractic treatment may save you months or years of suffering!



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**The amount we forward to you will be equal to the value or approximate value of the monthly individual employee contribution.

For Your Health - continued...

Food for Thought

by Nancy Dell
Registered Dietician

Holiday Meals Everyone Can Enjoy, Even On A Special Diet

How on earth are you supposed to cook a holiday dinner for Uncle Fred who watches his salt, Aunt Dolores with the high cholesterol, niece Lauren on a vegetarian diet, and your own picky kids without cooking five separate meals? The Registered Dietitians from the Massachusetts Dietetic Association have some answers.

"When planning a dinner for several people on different diets, use a trick straight out of a hospital kitchen. Simply plan your menu and then make appropriate modifications to dishes only as needed. For example, a tossed salad can be eaten as is by people on vegetarian, low-salt, low-fat, or low-cholesterol diets as long as it does not have any bacon, cheese, or croutons.

"Everyone can eat green beans, mashed potatoes, and cranberry sauce," states Carol Coughlin, RD, spokesperson for the Massachusetts Dietetic Association. Coughlin suggests you make a chart to easily view your choices and be sure everyone has a full meal to eat. List the special diet across the top and the menu items on the side.

Don't be shy in asking guests for help in locating special items or bringing a dish or two. Most vegetarian guests would be happy to bring a box of soy chicken patties or some other entree. A person on a low-fat diet could bring a low-fat dessert. One holiday meal is enough work without cooking several separate meals.

For more information or to ask a dietitian questions about your special dinner, contact the Massachusetts Dietetic Association at 1-800-277-5456.

Nancy Dell, MS, is the Media Representative for the Western Mass. Dietetic Association and a Registered Dietitian with a private practice in Feeding Hills. She can be reached at (413) 786-2957.

Cancer Support At Providence Hospital

Persons with cancer will find information and fellowship at the weekly meetings of Providence Hospital's Cancer Support Group.

The free sessions are conducted Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in the hospital auditorium, and are facilitated by Providence Hospital chaplain Sr. Madeleine Joy, S.P.

For more information, call (413) 539-2950.

Best local news...

It's Clark Kent! It's Superman! It's a Magic Ornament!




The sign on the phone booth glows, and Clark Kent turns into Superman™ on this Keepsake Magic Ornament. A great gift for your super hero!

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**Chiropractic
Care
by
Dr. Tami Nelson
Chiropractic
Physician**
Hampden County
Chiropractic
850 Springfield St.
Feeding Hills
786-4820

Another Case History...

Here is another exciting case history as written by one of our patients:

1. What was your health problem?

Severe upper back, shoulder, and neck pain which resulted in headaches and frustration due to the tension in that area. I was unable to sit for any period of time without feeling uncomfortable because of the pain.

2. How long had it troubled you?

On and off since an automobile accident in 1987, and more recently—constant pain for six to eight months.

3. Describe what chiropractic has done for you:

Chiropractic care has decreased the tension in my neck and shoulders. The constant pain in my neck is gone. I no longer feel tired and frustrated all the time.

The stretches Dr. Nelson taught me really help reduce tension in my neck and shoulders while working at my desk or computer.

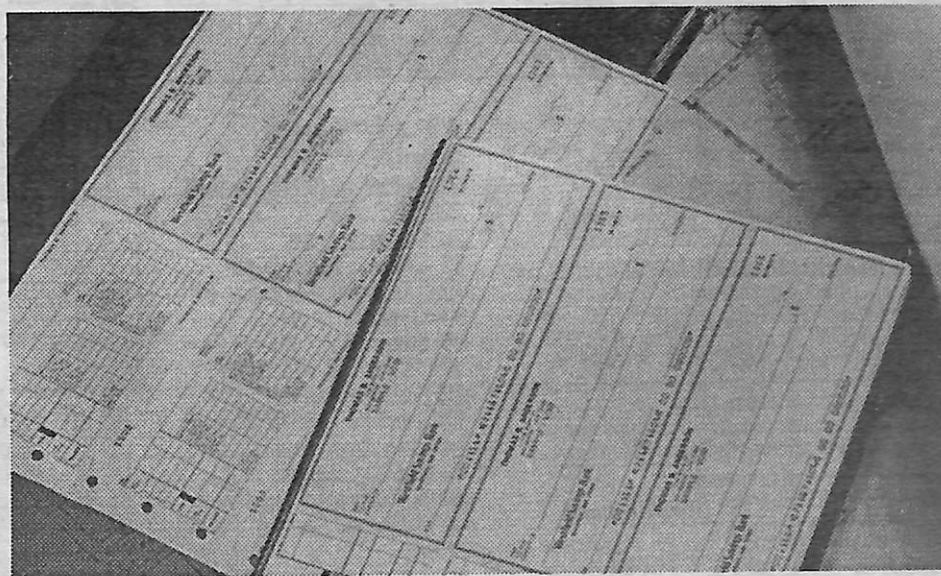
4. What have you told others about your experience with chiropractic?

I tell everyone about my positive results from chiropractic care. Everything else I tried before chiropractic care did not work.

5. What would you suggest to someone else with a similar problem?

Throw away those muscle relaxers and run to your nearest chiropractor!

Dr. Nelson maintains an office at Hampden County Chiropractic, 850 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills. She is available to answer questions on Monday and Wednesday from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at 786-4820.



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Arts

ACROSS

- 1 Pond croakers
- 6 Concentrated artillery fire
- 11 "... is just a — of cherries"
- 15 Sublet
- 16 Mid East prince
- 17 Racial characteristic
- 19 Anxious performer
- 21 Like week-old bread
- 22 High note
- 23 Banks of the Chicago Cubs
- 24 "— by starlight" (song)
- 25 Tiny
- 26 Unused
- 28 In this place
- 29 Found
- 33 Stuffed
- 35 "We're — to see the wizard"
- 38 Merit through labor
- 39 Type of code
- 41 Golfer Kite
- 42 At a distance
- 43 Wanted poster abbr.
- 44 More of a recluse
- 46 Poetry muse
- 47 Zig follower
- 49 One-time Middle East org.
- 50 Mine entrance
- 51 Gabby of Westerns
- 53 Trout locales
- 55 French girlfriend
- 58 A king of Norway
- 59 Female saint
- 60 Roman seven
- 61 "Good Earth" heroine
- 62 Fuel for a Tin Lizzie
- 63 Sip noisily
- 65 Augusta golfing event
- 67 Italian wine city
- 69 Goldwyn
- 71 Aaron's club
- 72 Top speed with a horse
- 74 Dirties
- 76 Numbers man
- 79 Love in Lyons
- 80 Irritate
- 83 Singer Pat

Last Week's Solution...

S	T	R	A	D	H	A	L	E	S	A	S	S	E	S
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- 84 79 A in Roma
 - 85 Scary
 - 86 Squids' output
 - 87 Toot or binge
 - 88 Gaze intently
- DOWN**
- 1 "Born —"
 - 2 "She's a — living doll"
 - 3 Korbut
 - 4 Gosh another way
 - 5 Main or Elm
 - 6 Observed
 - 7 With great speed
 - 8 Dikes
 - 9 Victory sign
 - 10 Hockey great Bobby
 - 11 Won out over
 - 12 Playful water mammal
 - 13 A real whopper
 - 14 Hang around
 - 18 Body of water
 - 20 Zephyrs
 - 24 A Stooze name

- 25 Pale
- 27 Diluted (with down)
- 29 Pasture
- 30 Sturdy tree
- 31 Like a loco bird
- 32 "Take a — view of"
- 34 Crag
- 36 Obese
- 37 "To and —"
- 40 Sulking ones
- 42 Jackie O's husband
- 44 Football positions
- 45 Goody stuff
- 46 Asner and Sullivan
- 48 "Black Jack's" WWI army
- 50 Agreeable and friendly
- 51 Swine
- 52 In the manner of
- 53 Letter run
- 54 Draw a bead on
- 56 Disfigure
- 57 Office holders
- 59 "A — of the lip"

MEET THE MASTER - by Dick Mastroianni

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	86					87						88					

- 61 Giants' great Mel
- 63 Mall components
- 64 Deacon
- 66 Talks back
- 68 Moved furtively
- 70 007 actor
- 72 Chatter
- 73 Miss Piggy's word
- 75 Arrow poison
- 76 Mrs. Dithers
- 77 Duo
- 78 "Suit to —"
- 80 Petrol
- 81 Beethoven's 5th piano concerto (abbr.)
- 82 "I — a kick out of..."

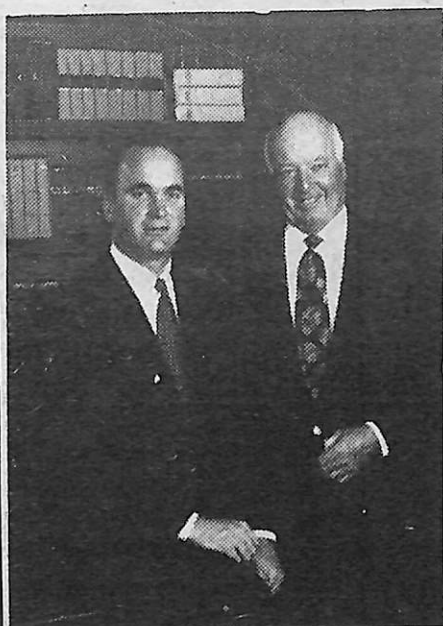
Professional Storyteller To Be At Ag. Library

Professional storyteller Mary Jo Maichack will present a school vacation story hour guaranteed to jiggle your jello on Thursday, December 28th, from 11:00 a.m. to noon at the Agawam Public Library.

Agawam and Feeding Hills kids aged four and up are invited. Silly stories and songs will be in abundance, so come share the fun.

Call 789-1550 or stop by at 750 Cooper St. to register.

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Encore Players Score Hit With Neil Simon's "The Sunshine Boys"

When the opening night performance (Thursday, November 30, 1995) of the Encore Players' "The Sunshine Boys" ran 15 minutes longer than rehearsals due to the audience laughter and applause, you knew it was a hit. This Neil Simon comedy was greatly appreciated by its first audience.

Under the outstanding direction of Jean Burns, the eight-member cast (featuring Dick Volker and Ken Bowen as the title characters) pulled out all the stops to make this a super production. The play had a two-weekend run at the Lower Level Theater of St. Luke's Church, 961 St. James Avenue, Springfield (across from Serv-U).

One of Neil Simon's best plays, "The Sunshine Boys" is the story of two old-time vaudevillians (as touted on "The Ed Sullivan Show") who, after a separation of 12 years, are getting back together and are booked on a CBS Television special. What happened when these two volatile performers got together provided a hilarious setting which brought their love/hate relationship into an explosive comedy.

Dick Volker, as Willie Clark, took charge of the stage from his opening snore to his final resurgence of vitality. He was cantankerous and droll, pitiful yet steely, wily and wonderful as the irascible Willie Clark. Ken Bown was a wonderful foil for Volker's acerbity as Al Lewis, the second half of the vaudeville team. Bowen, a gentler, kinder person, was yet an able antagonist against his partner's many slings and arrows.

Steve Henderson was very funny as the nervous and put-down nephew (and agent) of Willie Clark. Amy Helt was delightful as the scatterbrained nurse, while Mary Treiber provided deeper humor in her role as the registered nurse.

Completing a very strong cast were Joel Schnur, Joe Leahy, and Phil Beele. Beele, a resident of Agawam, was seen in his second role for the Encore Players, having appeared for the first time on any stage as the butler in "Peg 'O My Heart" last spring.

Westfield Theatre Slates Auditions For "Cinderella"

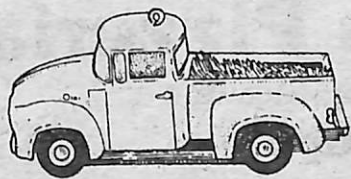
The Westfield Theatre Group, a department of the Westfield Woman's Club, will hold auditions for its spring musical, "Cinderella," on Monday and Tuesday, December 18th and 19th, at 7:00 p.m. Auditions will be held at 28 Court Street, Westfield.

The show will run the last three weekends of April 1996. Bob Laviolette will direct this Rodgers and Hammerstein musical, and Karen Johnson Dion will serve as musical director.

There are roles available for nine featured adults, and numerous chorus members, male and female, all over age 16. Anyone interested in auditioning should come prepared to sing and to read for featured roles if interested.

If you have any questions, please call Mary Ann at 562-9492 or Shelley at 568-5328.

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"Scrooge" To Conclude This Weekend



THE CRATCHIT FAMILY (Jeff Tingley, Dorrie Mitchell, Dan Szweczyk, Jessica Szweczyk, Jessica Forni, Jennifer Scuderi, Tom Szweczyk, and Andrew Stinger [back]) are ready for their final two performances of The Hilltop Players' musical production of "Scrooge, The Stingiest Man In Town" at The Red Door Theatre in Feeding Hills. Tickets for the December 15th and 16th shows at 7:30 p.m. are \$5 each, and reservations are strongly suggested by calling (413) 789-2026.



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Education

Keenan Announces Availability Of College Financial Aid Packets

College financial aid packets are still available for parents and students, the office of Representative Daniel F. Keenan has announced. The packets include sample financial aid forms, an overview of financial aid, and other informative pamphlets for those seeking college financial aid.

Representative Keenan recently co-sponsored a financial aid seminar with the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority to help parents and students with the financial aid process. The seminar was designed to teach parents how to fill out financial aid forms, how financial aid is calculated and awarded, how to compare financial aid award letters, and making alternative financing decisions.

Anyone interested in receiving the packet is asked to stop by Representative Keenan's district office at 549 Springfield Street in Agawam. Quantities are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

For further information, call the district office at (413) 786-4545.



GRANGER SCHOOL PRINCIPAL Phyllis Lewis (standing-middle) leads the chorus at the Christmas sing-a-long on the school grounds on Friday, December 8th. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Holiday Concerts At AHS & Middle School

The Agawam Schools will ring in the season with a series of holiday performances.

Audience participation will be the focus of a combined band and chorus concert, scheduled to take place at the High School on Tuesday, December 19th, at 7:00 p.m.

The High School Jazz Band, Concert Band, Show Choir, and Freshman Chorus will be featured at this event. The groups are under the direction of Stephen Files and Tammy Watson.

The sixth grade Band and Chorus will present their Winter Concert on Wednesday, December 20th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Middle School auditorium. The Band is conducted by Kenneth Longstreeth, and the Chorus is under the direction of Meredith Quino.

A \$2 donation for each performance is requested. Canned goods and non-perishable food items for Open Pantry will be accepted at both the High School and Middle School.

For more information about either of these upcoming performances, contact Tammy Watson at Agawam High School, 789-1400, ext. 410.

GRANGER CHRISTMAS - from Page 1...

"We usually have a holiday party for the children, but we're doing it with a little different twist," Mrs. Lafontaine said. "Instead of Santa and the kids getting something for themselves, we thought we'd combine it with caroling and a little more giving."

Bitzas said the Beautification Committee is hoping to do a little more each year to bring a festive look and a holiday spirit to the town.

"This year we combined with the Anne Sullivan Committee and the Granger PTO to bring a Christmas spirit to Feeding Hills Center," Bitzas said. "In years to come, we are going to encourage other schools and organizations to work with us. We hope businesses will get on board in the spirit of giving and sharing."

Next year, the Beautification Committee will try to enlist the help of the Big E in decorating the Morgan-Sullivan Bridge for the holidays, Bitzas said.

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ADVERTISER NEWS

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Agawam Schools' Weekly Lunch Menu

Monday, December 18th: Oven-baked chicken nuggets with honey or mayonnaise, seasoned mixed vegetables, bread & butter, chilled pears in syrup, milk.

Tuesday, December 19th: Pepperoni-topped pizza, tossed garden salad with spinach greens & dressing, chilled peaches, oatmeal cookie, milk.

Wednesday, December 20th: Hamburg steak patty, whipped potatoes, brown gravy, seasoned carrots, wheat bread & butter, fruit cup or vanilla pudding with topping, milk.

Thursday, December 21st: Rotini with meatsauce, seasoned broccoli cuts, Italian bread & butter, pear macaroon, milk.

Friday, December 22nd: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle chips, oven French fries with catsup, rosy applesauce, ice cream cup, milk.

* **REMINDER:** Elementary lunch is \$1/per day or \$5/weekly.

Jr. High PTO Plans Next Meeting On Mon., Dec. 18th.

The Agawam Junior High School PTO will meet on Monday, December 18th at 7:30 p.m. in the school's cafeteria.

Your support and participation are needed. Please try to attend this meeting.

The PTO is looking for parents to organize and chair a committee for the eighth grade dance in the spring. If interested, please attend this meeting or call Donna M. Shibley at 786-3888.

Hope to see you Monday!

Best local news!!!

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Granger School Still Amassing Collection Of Postage Stamps

Granger Elementary School in Feeding Hills has announced that it is "coming along very well" with its project of collecting one-million cancelled postage stamps. At presstime, Granger has collected a total of 42,242 stamps.

With the holiday season here, you will be receiving many Christmas cards in the mail. Therefore, this is a great time to give the project a Christmas boost!

"We would welcome any community help with this project," stated Mrs. Bonnie Moccio, Project Coordinator. She added, "There is a box in the entrance to the school where envelopes of stamps can be placed."

The administration, faculty, and children at Granger Elementary School thank you for your support.

AHS Students Receive Recognition From PV Collaborative

Jim Laverty, Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative supervisor, has announced the school's Student of the Month Award recipients for November.

The Vocational Technical Education Center recognizes individual students from each program and each session (AM/PM) that have demonstrated some or all of the following:

- The ability to apply effectively the skills taught.
- Exemplary behavior towards other students and staff.
- An above average willingness to work and accept new work.
- An outstanding attitude of cooperation.
- Continued good attendance in the program.
- A strong desire to contribute to the program and the Voc-Tech Center.

Agawam students to receive this honor are: **Karrie King**, Allied Health; **Laura Cincotta**, Fashion Design; **Matt Grych**, Electronics.



KIRSTEN L. DECOTEAU

Kirsten L. DeCoteau Gets Early Acceptance To Attend WPI

Kirsten Lea Decoteau, AHS Class of 1996, has been accepted for Early Decision admission into the class of 2000 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Noted by the Admissions Committee in their letter of acceptance was her impressive academic as well as personal accomplishments outside the classroom.

A senior at AHS, Kirsten served as a goalie for this year's successful varsity field hockey team. In addition, she is a member of the National Honor Society, co-president of the AFS Club, and a varsity letter winner on the girls' tennis team. She also serves as the first grade Sunday School teacher for the Agawam Congregational Church and is Editor-in-Chief of this year's *Sachem* year-book.

Decoteau, who currently ranks fourth academically in her class, plans to major in civil or mechanical engineering. She is the daughter of Dr. & Mrs. J. Patrick Decoteau of Feeding Hills.



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AMY BILODEAU

Amy Bilodeau Named Artist Of Month At Agawam High

The Agawam High School Art Department has named Amy Bilodeau, the daughter of Jerry and Jane Bilodeau of Dartmouth Street, Agawam, as artist of the month.

She has been a pottery student of Miss Frances Messina for two years and is at the advanced stage. A junior, her favorite subjects are English and pottery. She has a miniature Schnauzer called "Ritzie" and two parakeets, "Chip" and "Pete," for which she cares. She has a brother, Chris, who is in the eighth grade.

Amy plays varsity field hockey, lacrosse, and indoor field hockey. She belongs to S.A.V.E. (Students Against Violating the Environment), the American Field Service (Foreign Exchange Program), and the Math Club. Her plan for the future is to attend college and major in business administration.

Students from the Agawam Junior High School honored this month are Hiliary King, an eighth grade art student of Mr. Kraus, and Sara Gregory, a seventh grade artist whose teacher is Mrs. Debbie Florek.

Amy Marcotte Named A President's Fellow At Trinity College

Amy Marcotte, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew B. Marcotte of 107 Fox Farm Road, Feeding Hills, has been named a President's Fellow in Engineering at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

A member of the Class of 1996 at Trinity and a graduate of Agawam High School, Marcotte was one of 27 students who were selected by the faculty at Trinity College to be President's Fellows for the 1995-96 academic year.

Each academic department and program at Trinity annually nominates a senior major to be a President's Fellow. Selection is based on outstanding achievement in the major, as well as evidence of wide-ranging intellectual interest.

The Fellows meet with College President Evan Dobelle and members of the faculty and administration throughout the year to discuss a variety of topics related to college life and other educational issues.

Trinity, founded in 1823, is an independent nonsectarian liberal arts college that consistently is ranked among the nation's best for undergraduate learning. Its curriculum features general education requirements but gives each student the flexibility to experiment and acquire specialized training in any of 35 major fields.

About 1,750 students from 47 states and 24 countries are enrolled at Trinity, whose 100-acre campus is located in Connecticut's capital city.

The College maintains a 10-to-1 student-faculty ratio in the classroom and offers numerous opportunities for learning beyond the classroom, including public and private sector internships, voluntarism, and an active city cultural and social life.



CUB PACK 75 TIGER CUBS meet on Tuesday night at Sacred Heart Church in Feeding Hills. The cubs enjoyed an evening recently of creating wood designs. Pictured, back row -Nicholas Savard, D.J. DePalo, and Christopher Chaderjian. Front row - John Thomas McCarthy, Joey LaPorte, Joseph Lepianka, Michael DeChristopher, and Andrew Fay.

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Agawam High Students Learning Hands-On Economics In Classroom

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

A poster on the bulletin board proclaims "Business education is education for life."

For Agawam High School teacher Robert Lester, the slogan isn't merely a bunch of words to decorate his classroom: it's the underlying philosophy of his approach to teaching economics.

In addition to learning theoretical economics and gaining a background in the subject through textbook study, Lester's students try their hand at investing in the stock market and at managing their own companies in a program developed by Junior Achievement (JA).

As a representative of JA, Monsanto company physician, Dr. Bill McKeon, visits with the class once a week to bring them a real world perspective on their classroom study. As part of the JA project, McKeon guides the students through the intricacies of owning and managing a pen manufacturing company.

Using examples from his experiences running a medical practice and managing a corporate medical team, McKeon brings the students real-life scenarios to bring textbook theories alive in the classroom.

On a recent visit, McKeon illustrated budgeting strategies for long-range and short-range goals by using examples from sports, industry, and retailing.

To illustrate the importance of long-range planning and budgeting, McKeon turned to the hefty salaries routinely paid out to major league sports stars. "When do you think the Red Sox made a plan about Mo Vaughn?" McKeon asked.

Formerly an instructor at the graduate school level, McKeon said he enjoys teaching the JA course to high school students.

"I'm trying to bring them into the real world and to get them to understand that businesses have a plan. For instance, clothing manufacturers would certainly be planning to make their money between Thanksgiving and Christmas," McKeon said.

McKeon finds teaching fun, especially when he can see the students are making the connection between the theories in their books and the lessons he's bringing from the business world.

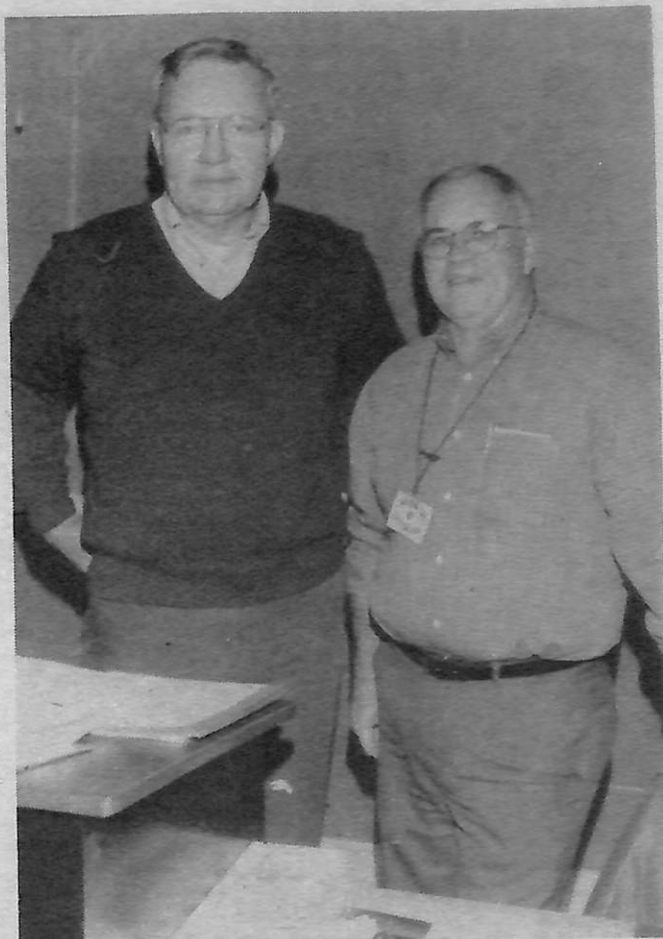
"... Benefits For Students ..."

"There are a lot of benefits for the students (in having a guest lecturer)," Lester added. "They're hearing a different perspective and different experiences. This reinforces what I'm teaching."

In addition to the JA Project, Lester's students are doing some hands-on investing on the New York Stock Exchange. It's all on paper, of course, but "Stock Day" gives the students the opportunity to keep track of their investment portfolios in the hopes of making a killing in the market.

Lester said the students start off with \$50,000 to invest (in a minimum of three companies) and are expected to research their companies and to keep track of market trends in making their buy and sell decisions.

Offered at AHS as a one-semester course, economics is intended to give the students a basic understanding of economic institutions. "We give the students a little jump start for when they get to college," Lester said.



AGAWAM HIGH ECONOMICS TEACHER Robert Lester (left) and Dr. William McKeon from the Monsanto Company are teaching real world economics to students through the Junior Achievement Program. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

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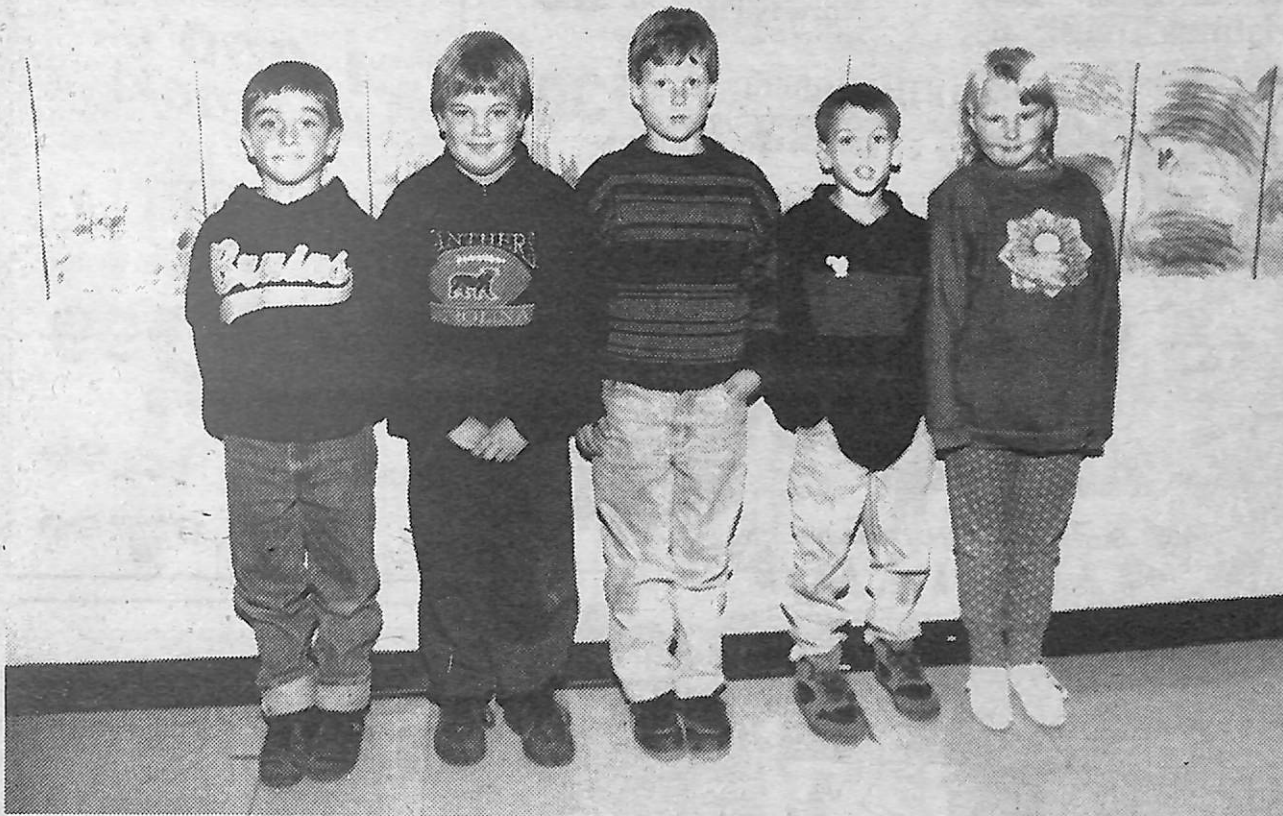


CLARK SCHOOL STUDENTS (Room 8) showing off their paintings to celebrate National Book Week include Nicole Frazier, Alison Dassatti, Sarah Metcalf, Christina Borgatti, Chelsea Rich, Chelsea LaBelle, Joel Melendez, Erica DeBarge, and David St. John. Advertiser

News photo by Jack Devine.



EILEEN CHAPMAN, children's library associate at the Agawam Public Library, is pictured with second grade students holding some of their own books and stories created while responding to the literature in their new reading series. The students are Kristopher Kelly, Becky Largay, and Kristie Roberts. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



CLARK STUDENTS STANDING IN FRONT of the Pet Mural in celebration of National Book Week at the school include Nathan Rheault, Brian Lee Costello, Peter Longhi, Andrew Turner, and Sarah Henrikson. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

National Book Week Celebrated By Ag. Lib. At Clark School

In celebration of National Book Week, Mrs. Eileen Chapman, children's library associate at the Agawam Public Library, spoke with the second grade students at James Clark School.

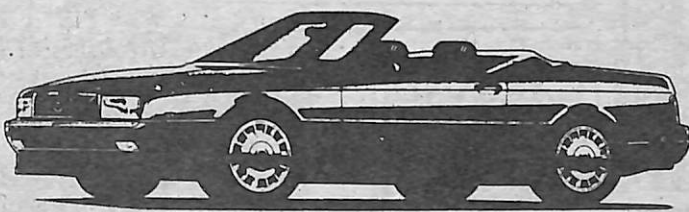
Mrs. Chapman read "The Last Noo-Noo," "Never Ride Your Elephant to School," "Nathaniel," and "Willy Scared Silly."

The visit by Mrs. Chapman also reflects the close association the library has with the schools in offering quality literature, an important component of the new literature-based reading series being taught in the town's schools. The purpose of the new reading program is not only to teach children to read but also instill in them the joy and excitement of reading using "natural texts," author's original works.

The literature based program also provides opportunities for the children to respond to the literature in a variety of ways and is organized around appropriate themes to allow for in-depth study of a variety of topics.

The teachers report that the students are really enjoying the literature selections in their anthologies. "Enthusiasm and interest are the sparks that make learning to read fun," reported the teachers.

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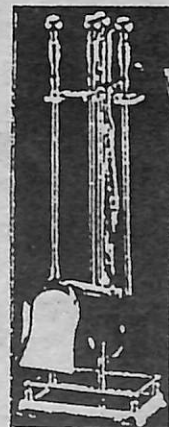
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Jr. High Student Mary Manning Winner In Statewide Essay Contest

by Kathy Cassanelli
News Editor

Eighth grader Mary Manning has one more reason to appreciate her best friend, Libby Sussman. Actually, it's more like more than 100 reasons.

As a finalist winner in the statewide essay contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Credit Union Association, Inc., Mary received a \$100 savings bond and an invitation to attend recognition ceremonies hosted by Lt. Governor Paul Cellucci at the State House in Boston.

Out of 2,500 entrants, Mary, along with 22 other students, was honored at a recent reception.

Accompanying Mary were her parents, her English teacher (Douglas Walsh), and the subject of her prize-winning essay, her pal Libby.

Believing that the ultimate test of his students' writing lies not only with his assessment but with the reaction of a larger audience, Walsh encouraged his students to enter the 250-word contest on the subject of best friends.

"This is real accomplishment for Mary," Walsh said. "It's an honor for our school. It brings recognition for all the students and contradicts some of the stereotypes about kids."

Walsh said Mary's essay was one of eight chosen to represent the school. "Mary's taught me a few things about writing and about friendship," Walsh said.

For Mary, the hardest part of the essay was keeping within the 250-word limit.

"There's so much I can say about her (Libby),"

Mary said. "She's really wonderful. When I have a problem, I can talk to her."

"Renewing" Their Friendship...

Friends since third grade, the two drifted apart during their years at the Middle School, but renewed their friendship when they moved up to the Junior High as seventh graders.

"I'm outgoing and she's shy," Mary said. "But, when we're together, it's just perfect."

Mary is the president of the AJHS chapter of the National Junior Honor Society, a member of the school's jazz and concert bands, a member of the UMass Youth Wind Ensemble, and recently won a chair in both the jazz and concert bands in the Junior Western District Festival.

Mary enjoys history and foreign language study, but her real love is the baritone sax. Looking forward to joining the Agawam High Marching Mohawks and AHS Jazz Band next year, Mary said her ambition is to one day become a band director.

An avid reader, especially of mystery stories, Mary enjoys writing stories and plays, but finds writing mysteries "doesn't go so well."

Asked why she thought her essay was chosen out of so many entries, Mary said, "I really do have the world's greatest best friend. I wrote the truth and you can't get any better than the truth."

The essays submitted by the AJHS students were sponsored by the Agawam Federal Credit Union.

EIGHTH GRADER MARY MANNING received a \$100 savings bond for being a finalist winner in the statewide essay contest sponsored by the Massachusetts Credit Union Association, Inc. Mary was sponsored by the Agawam Federal Credit Union. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.

Quick & Easy Tips For Holiday Decorations

'Tis the season to set a festive table, and have fun entertaining family and friends. These table top tips will help!

- Make it easy for guests to identify the foods you're serving at a buffet. Write the name of the food on a small card. Using a sharp knife, cut a small slit in fruits such as small pears or apples, lemons or limes and insert the card into the slit. For a fancier touch, you can spray paint the fruits with gold or silver paint.

- Create a natural napkin ring. String small fruits such as kumquats or tiny lady apples and tie around the napkin. Tuck in a sprig of greenery or a blossom. Or simply tie a red, green, or gold ribbon around the napkin and tuck in greenery.

- For a spur of the moment centerpiece, pile seasonal fruits such as persimmons, quince, apples, pears, and limes into a festive tureen, crystal bowl, or oversized grapevine wreath. Another option, arrange favorite holiday ornaments in a bowl. Scatter ribbons, blossoms, or greenery within the arrangement.

- Don't let guests leave empty-handed. Put homemade goodies (such as butter cookies, seasoned nuts, homemade fudge, etc.) into inexpensive mugs or glasses, snifters, canisters, boxes or tins and wrap with clear plastic. Add a pretty bow. Place gifts on a tray near the door, and let guests choose one as they depart.

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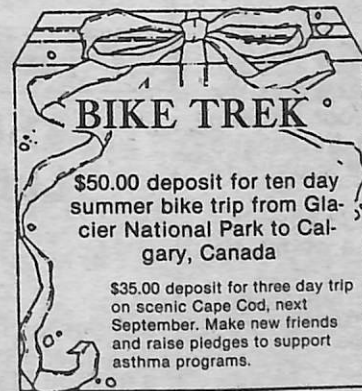
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Sports

Different Cast, But Same Story For Girls' Hoop

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

For the first time in eight seasons, the Agawam High girls' basketball faithful will see a different team take the floor this time around.

In the past, they had always been a low down club. They banged and battled under the boards with the likes of Cyndi Stone (several years ago) and Kristen Schmaelzle last year, leading the charge. Not many teams could match up front with them.

"We're going to be completely up tempo this year," Coach Lou Conte revealed. Conte, in his 10th campaign as head coach, feels he has the team to do it.

"Let's start with **Kristen Patterson**," he said. "She'll be our number one guard. She'll run the offense."

Patterson is eminently qualified for the job. Though just a sophomore, she started all last season. She is one of the premier athletes in Western Massachusetts. And she has that all consuming confidence in herself.

Courtne Hyland will be the number two guard. Courtne is tough. She's a shooter. If you ask her to put up the three pointers, she'll do it and do it well.

"**Steph Biza**, a senior guard, and junior forward **Sarah Cote** are going to be called upon quite a bit," Conte says.

Then he noted some others who will contribute; freshman center **Pia Bertone-Gross**, freshman guard **Barbara Maloni**, junior forward/guard **Lisa Reveruzzi**, and senior forward/guard **Jen Vagnys**.

Depth A Plus

Will Agawam, the Western Mass. champs the year before last and the Valley Wheel champs and Division One semi-finalists last year (they lost 61-52 to Pittsfield in the finals), be a stronger team in 1995-96? "No," the coach says. "When you lose kids like Schmaelzle, Katie LaBreck, and Shauna Naciewicz, you can't be. But the kids I mentioned will give us the depth to run. And as anyone who knows basketball is aware of, when you run, you need a lot of people to do it."

Then he added, "Other than Sarah Cote, who is close to six feet, we're not that tall. The running game can make up for that type of situation."

"Our defense will be based on our speed. And we have a lot of that," Conte said. "We'll go man-to-man. We'll switch to zone on occasion. We'll substitute on that end of the floor a great deal because we have players who are very good at denying the other team the ball."

There are many teams they'll have to beat to get into the tournament, among them, Longmeadow and Chicopee. "Our singular goal, as always, is to get into the tournament," Conte said.

Long Tradition Of Excellence

The Agawam High girls' basketball team has a long tradition of excellence. When the players get into the program, they don't leave. They learn from the outstanding athletes that have gone before them. Those are lessons that can't be easily forgotten or ignored.

Conte has that rare blend that makes a coach - he knows how the job should be done; he gets the most out of everyone who takes the floor for him; he can be tough and gentle; he can be distant and close. He treats the superstar and the substitute the same way - with respect.

The whole thing flows smoothly. And when he goes to work on the sideline during a game, he puts everything into it.

The Agawam girls' team will be different, but one thing will remain the same - they'll be a force again this season. Bank on that fact.

Daggett Gymnasts On Top Once Again

The gymnasts from Tim Daggett Gold Medal Gymnastics were in their best form recently, as they reaped the rewards of their preparation at Springfield College and the University of Massachusetts.

At the John Hancock Invitational held at Springfield College, the girls' team was represented in Levels 7 through 10 and brought home a number of honors.

Michelle Germano (Level 10) earned first in Vault and Floor and second on Bars, with a second-place All-around. At Level 9 (ages eight to 14), the team was second All-around, and as in-

SEE DAGGETT - Page 49...

Turnaround Year Expected For AHS Boys' Hoop

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Mike Martin has coached Agawam boys' basketball for 11 seasons. In that time, his teams have been to the top and trolled the bottom of the Western Massachusetts high school basketball waters. Last season, they were stuck in the depths at 3-17.

The coach knows basketball. He knows what he has this season. He knows what they will have to have to turn it all completely around. He thinks it is lurking inside the heads of his kids.

"Confidence," he says. "If they can bring it out, we are going to be good, maybe 10 to 15 games better in the win column." Then he added, "Confidence is perhaps 70 percent of why you win in high school basketball."

They played Central last Tuesday night (see related story). That game was the start of a six-game, early season run that will go a long way to gaining that confidence.

Martin had some comments on the team he's put together for the '95-'96 season. "Captain **Joe Albano** will run the offense," he noted. Albano is a six-foot senior, who can shoot from way downtown if necessary. He'll team up with 5'10" junior **Todd Jorgensen** to form what they hope will be a formidable backcourt combination.

Junior standout **Phil McGeoghan** (6'3"), who played outside for much of last season, will find more work inside on this go around. "He will be an added threat down low," the coach said. "He has all the tools. He's good now. If he's pressed to perform, he can be great."

His center, 6'5" **David Murphy**, is still a question mark, even after the first game. "He can dominate as a rebounder. He just has to have that confidence factor," the coach admitted, going back to the theme of the season.

One guy who will be new to the team is six-foot forward **Nick Dion**. He wasn't able to play last season. Other than Nick, not a lot of newcomers will be evident. "We have a pretty set team. Jobs are scarce around here," Martin said.

Their strength is team harmony. "We are all going for a common goal - a good, winning season. We'll be tested from the start of this year," Martin noted.

SEE BOYS' HOOP - Page 48...

As Usual, AHS Will Dominate 1995-'96 Mats

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

How do you improve upon perfection?

"That's a tough question," Agawam High wrestling Coach Phil Tomkiel laughed. "I think we'll have to be more dominating."

How can that be possible? The Agawam High School wrestling team has won the last nine Western Mass. titles in their division (the 'A' - the best). They have two state crowns. The prestigious publication, *USA Wrestling*, has them as the repeat state champs. They are ranked as the 23rd best high school wrestling team in America.

This is a team as solid as concrete from the little guys to the big ones. The two rebars are the co-captains - the blue chip, state champions -171-pounder **Andrew Ingham** and 189-pounder **Jon Jacobsen**. They are both seniors. They are the fire and ice. Ingham is the flamboyant one. Jacobsen is reserved.

Inspiration To The Team

"They're an inspiration to our team that goes above what any of us can really understand. At practice, they work harder than anyone else," Tomkiel says.

Remember, this is a team where every wrestler, in every weight class, works until there is no more work left in them.

The question was asked. On a scale from one to 10, where would Ingham and Jacobsen be? The coach didn't hesitate. "Both of these guys would be 10." He wasn't bragging on them. He wrestled himself. He knows talent.

On a team so strong and so dominant, how strong might they be? "I can only answer the question this way," the coach answered. "It depends on the competition. We have 52 kids on this team. We can make it up pretty good against anyone."

A couple of kids coming up that he mentioned were sophomore **Kevin McKay** (in the 100-pound class), who had many starts last year, and sophomore **Justin Aldrich** (in the 112's). Then there is **Mike Pessolano**, a senior. "He's strong in the 119's," the coach noted.

SEE WRESTLING - Page 51...

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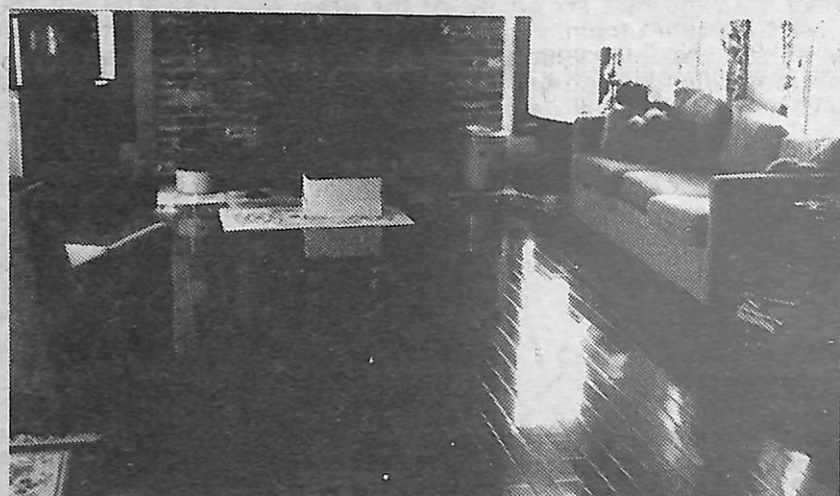
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Devils Champs Of ASA's Under 12 Girls

The Devils finished the Agawam Soccer Association's fall season with an impressive 9-3 record. It was a great team effort by all that made the difference.

Forwards Jacquelyn Bennett, Sarah Leydon, and Maureen Quinlan kept the offensive line strong all season while halfbacks Kristin Berry, Melissa Perry, Diane Jensen, Sabrina Brizzolari, Kate Horniak, and Jacquelyn Beaulieu kept the ball moving with some fantastic passing.

The Devils' strong defenders, Lissa Asta-Ferrero, Karen Comee, and Erica Pelley, were tough or impossible to get by. A special thanks to goalie Kristina Midura, who had many great saves, and who played goalie all season without a complaint.

Coach Denise Douglas would like to thank all of the players and their parents for a great season. It was lots of fun.

BOYS' HOOP - from Page 46...

As evident in their game against Central, they have a new offense this year. It involves a lot of motion. It's almost a playground type of deal. "In a way, it is," the coach said. "It gives every kid who plays in it a chance to use every skill they have. It's not just spot-to-spot like before." Then he added, "But, unlike playground ball, it has structure to it. We'll go inside. We're balanced. Every kid will be asked to be creative in every aspect of the game: passing, shooting, rebounding, setting picks, inside and outside play, and defense."

Man To Man Defense

His defense will be mostly man to man. "We have the speed to do it. We are working on our anticipation in that department, as well." They'll go zone if they come up against a team that can't shoot from the perimeter.

They've always been aggressive. "That will never change," the coach says firmly. "You can cover up many shortcomings that way. If you do it right, you get the other team worrying about what you're going to do to them, rather than what they have to do to you."

Other than the first six games of the season, against Central, Putnam, Holyoke, then getting them on the road, they'll have to deal with Valley Wheel foes Chicopee and Amherst. (They beat the Hurricanes in their final game last year.) Those contests will be the key to a possible tournament year.

Once again, Coach Martin stressed confidence as the lock that will accept that key. If it opens, Agawam boys' basketball could be a force in Western Mass. this season.

Best local news...



MEMBERS OF THE DOUGLAS RED DEVILS, champs of the Agawam Soccer Association's Under 12 girls' league. Back row, from left - Coach Denise Douglas, Melissa Perry, Lissa Asta-Ferrero, Jacquelyn Bennett, Kristen Berry, and Sarah Leydon. Front row - Jacquelyn Beaulieu, Kristina Midura, Sabrina Brizzolari, Kate Horniak, and Diane Jensen. Missing - Erica Pelly and Maureen Quinlan.

Despite Loss To Central, AHS Boys' Show '95-'96 Will Be Much Better

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

It was that confidence thing. According to Agawam High boys' basketball Coach Mike Martin, if his team has it, they are world beaters. If they don't, they just get beaten.

That's about what happened in the 58-50 loss to Central last Tuesday night at Agawam High School. They had it going in the first half and took a 32-25 lead into the locker room at intermission. That confidence slipped away in the second half as they were outscored 33-18, leading to the defeat.

Both teams started out about the same way—up tempo and nervous. The Brownies had to face a Central full court press from the get go. It was obvious the Golden Eagles were going to test the Brownies' ball-handling skills early on. They quickly found out that guards Todd Jorgenson (three points, 1-1) and Chris Bitzas (three-pointer, 2-2) were up to the challenge. Both dribbled the ball well and hit the upcourt passes they had to hit to break the press.

Agawam was switching up on defense, going from man-to-man to a two-three zone. That tactic seemed to confuse Central. Witness the fact that they were having a tough time putting the ball in the hole for much of the first half. They would end up going 9-26 from the field (34 percent shooting average).

Agawam Displays Confidence...

Agawam, on the other hand, had the confidence machine fired up and running on all cylinders. It showed in their 11-22 performance (50 percent). They were beating a quick Central team down the court for the bulk of the first half. It also showed in the performance of David Murphy (three points, 1-2).

The 6'5" senior center would end up the evening with 17 boards. He had nine of those in the first half, insuring that Central would get only one try at the hoop.

Agawam had a 16-13 lead at the 7:13 mark of the first. Central finally got a 17-16 lead at 6:30 on an Alex King (11 points) jumper from the circle. But junior standout Phil McGeoghan (16 points, including a three and 1-2 from the line, four rebounds), using his 6'3" height underneath, put one up at 5:40 to give the Brownies an 18-17 lead. A McGeoghan turnaround jumper in the lane a minute later helped the Brownies ring up a 24-17 lead.

Central wouldn't cave in. They continued to pass. And at the 3:00 mark, Central center Kein Bailey (eight points) brought the Golden Eagle fans to their feet with a nice slam dunk to make the score 25-21.

SEE AHS BOYS' HOOP - Page 49...

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AHS BOYS' HOOP - from Page 48...

That performance didn't impress Bitzas. At the 2:10 mark, he drained a three from way downtown on the left for a 28-21 Agawam lead. With 1:40 to go, Agawam enjoyed a nine-point cushion, 30-21.

During the first half, one Brownie was quietly and efficiently playing his game. Senior swingman Joe Albano (16 points, including 3-4 from the line, four rebounds) racked up 10 points, including a three, while playing solid defense on the toughest Golden Eagle front court scorers, James Gee (16 points) and Dwayne Early (12 points). They had four and no points, respectively, in the first 16.

The half ended with Agawam up 32-25. Besides the 50 and 34 percent shooting from the field by Agawam and Central, respectively, the Brownies went 5-7 from the line. Central went 6-11.

DAGGETT - from P. 46..

dividual gymnasts, the girls were impressive as well.

Kadee Bramley was first All-around, Jaime Scott-Smith was second, Brynne Kennedy took fifth, and Amy Reynolds came in seventh. Also representing the team were Lindsey Hadden (third on Vault), Kari Barnowski (fourth on Beam), and Brooke Giguere, contributing to the team effort with a solid 30.55.

At Level 7, Erika Gildersleeve brought home the sixth-place honors on Vault.

The boys' team literally *owned* their meet, the UMass Open. Elite gymnast and Olympic hopeful Jeff LaVallee was second on Bars, third on Floor, and fifth All-around. At Class 1, Andy Leis was All-around second. In Class 2, there was a 1-2-3 sweep by Darren Morace, Ali Eslami, and John Szymczyk. David LeClair, in his first meet at this level, scored an honest 40.6.

In Class 3 (ages 14 and 15), Mathieu Perry was first. The 12 and 13 group saw Jamey Houle and Patrick McFarlin take first and second place.

At Class 4, firsts were brought home by two boys: Jon Abbate (ages 13 and 14) and Steve Gaudette (ages 10 to 12). The boys at this level are all coached by former Olympic Gold Medalist Tim Daggett, and Igor Vernyi.

Also, the brand new Daggett Level 6 boys' team displayed a strong showing. The boys honored their coach, Kurt Sulkala, with an All-around first by Daniel Messier and third by Jeff Krok (ages 12 and 13), and third by Alex Smith (ages 10 and 11).

The rest of the team contributed to the all-around effort with seven of eight members scoring 5.0 or better out of a perfect 6.0 in floor, and six of eight above 5.0 in rings. As coach Sulkala stated, "It was a great experience for everyone ... I'm really proud of them!"

The entire team qualified for the State Championships in Sterling, come March. Now the entire boys' team will prepare for the Tim Daggett National Invitational at Springfield College on January 6th and 7th.

The second half was like another game (played somewhere else). "We decided we weren't making it from the outside against their man defense," Central coach Howie Burns said later. "We had to take it down low and drive the lane if we were going to have any chance to win."

Second-Half Problems For The Brownies

They did just that. Agawam ran into other problems in the second half. They started early on. The Brownies, hot shooters in the first, missed their first four shots and would go on to can only 7-29 in the second for a 24 percent average, which won't beat anybody. Central, driving as planned, had it at 32-31 at the 13:50 mark.

They would go 11-19 from the field in the half, which comes out to a lofty 57 percent average, which will beat just about anybody.

Starting at the 12:29 mark, when Central took a one-point lead (36-35), the game evolved into a

seesaw battle. With 7:43 left, it was tied at 42.

But Central, keeping to its second-half (lane-dominating) plan, was beginning to control the play. Agawam, while not panicking, started to look a half-step slower than Central. "I think a lot of it had to do with us not being in top shape yet," Martin would note after it was over.

At the 4:14 mark, Central led 48-43 and went up 50-43 on two free throws by King. It was clear that the Brownies, stung by their poor field goal shooting, were starting to lose that confidence edge that had served them so well in the first half.

With a minute left, the Golden Eagles were up by nine (56-47) and about ready to fly back to their nest with a hard-fought win in their beaks.

A McGeoghan three-pointer finished the scoring for the Brownies. Central got four more and it ended, once again, 58-50, Eagles.



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Let's Talk "Turkey"!!!

Turkey hunters of Massachusetts had an exceptional season during the week-long fall season which ran from November 13th through November 18th. A preliminary count at the end of the season indicated that 436 hunters had bagged wild birds for their Thanksgiving table!

The high harvest confirmed the results anticipated by Jim Cardoza, turkey project leader for the DFW. Cardoza expected a high harvest as a result of a high turkey population and on the accessibility of birds. Populations have been growing, helped along by the mild winter of 1994 and an excellent breeding season last spring.

Birds have been more accessible than usual because acorns have been scarce this year. Because acorns have been scarce, birds have been feeding in fields and other accessible areas rather than on high ridges. This same pattern has been seen in the other New England states.

In reviewing the preliminary kill figures, Cardoza notes that during the first year of the fall turkey season, hunters took 329 birds. Since then, the fall harvest has hovered around 200.

Setting New Record

New Hampshire archers have a keen eye and true aim. They have taken 73 turkeys in the Granite State during the fall archery-only wild turkey season. It's no small feat to take a wild turkey with bow and arrow. The kill was a new turkey record.

Hunters took 43 turkeys during last year's fall season, and 23 in the fall of 1993. The archery turkey season runs concurrent with the archery season for deer—September 15th through December 15th. Both hens and toms may be taken in the fall, while only toms are legal to kill in the May season.

According to Walski, turkey project leader, an estimated 7,000 turkeys were in the state prior to the fall season. A mild winter helped survival rates, and this spring's dry conditions were ex-

cellent for hatching and chick survival. Brood production was good, averaging 9.8 poults per hen.

Turkeys in the Granite State may be hunted in all but Coos and Carroll Counties, and a few towns which are closed to allow turkey populations to become established.

The largest turkeys taken by bow and arrow so far this fall are: a 19-pound tom taken by Kevin Harris in Antrim; an 18½-pound tom taken in Alstead by Todd Olson; an 18-pound tom taken in Sullivan by Mark Smith; and an 18-pound tom taken by Peter Breen in Troy.

FY '96 Budget Passed In June

On June 21, 1995, Governor Weld signed the FY '96 budget. Sections of interest include: \$75,000 earmarked in the education budget for an artificial reef program with UMass-Dartmouth; DMF to conduct a study of the Newburyport shellfish purification plant; and an amendment to the personal flotation device (PFD) law to comply with new federal regulations which require Type 1V PFD's to be used "only" as throwable devices and not in lieu of wearable PFD's.

As of this writing, both the House and Senate have passed their versions of the Open Space Bond Bill and the Seaport Bond Bill. Both bills contain funding for programs which would benefit the commercial fishing industry. A legislative conference committee for each bill will recommend a final joint version for both houses.

Russ Baker is said to be improving rapidly after suffering a stroke and having heart bypass surgery. Charlie, his son, said Russ has been transferred to Rehab West—the Rehabilitation Hospital of Western New England, 14 Chestnut Place, Ludlow, MA.

Cards can be mailed to Russ at the above address. Note "Room 330 on the envelope."

Don McCave, past club representative to the Hampden County Council of Sportsmen, wants to make sure all Mawaga members have the telephone number for the Massachusetts Sportsmen Legislature HOT LINE.

This is a free service which is offered by GOAL to keep all sportsmen up to date on what is pending in the Massachusetts House. It's scary what the animal rights activists and anti-gun people are trying to have put into law.

Call 1-800-338-6999 to hear what bills are coming up, and what the sportsmen can do to help keep anything that's bad for "we sportsmen" from becoming law.

Hockey At AHS Will Drastically Change Strategy In '95-'96

by Dave Rollins
Sports Editor

Last season, the Agawam High ice hockey team was a wild and woolly group. They had a lot of moxie, a lot of aggressiveness, a lot of penalties, a lot of losses (12) to go along with few wins (3) and one tie. They gave some credibility to the old adage about going to a fight and a hockey game happens to break out.

Things will change radically this season, according to fourth-year head coach Frank Pycko. "We've down-sized the team," he revealed. "We're going on the premise that quality is better than quantity. We feel we have some talented kids here who will get more attention and time to hone their skills because of the smaller squad. After all, it's a short season. Instruction time is at a premium."

He added, "Hopefully, we've also taken care of that tough guy attitude of last year. It doesn't matter how tough you are if your opponent skates right past you with the puck. To me, tough means going into the corner in a crowd and coming out with the puck."

The coach feels he has some impact players this year on a team that has only five seniors. Two of them come from what would seem to be an unlikely place for hockey players - California. They are transfer students **Dave Campbell** and **Mike Hodges**.

Campbell is a senior forward. Don't put down California hockey," Pycko notes. "The sport is bigger than you think out there. Dave has been well schooled. He's solid in every aspect of the game."

Hodges is a junior goalie. "Mike will be important, not only because he's a good tender, but also because his talents will push our starter (senior **Derek Benton**), who is talented in his own right but sometimes needs a shot in the arm."

Intelligent Hockey

Sophomore defenseman **Geoff Ciak** will also figure into the equation. "Geoff is a very intelligent hockey player. Seldom will you see him get caught out of position. He helped himself after the high school season by playing a lot of junior hockey. He is also a darn good kid," the coach noted.

One kid who really amazed the coach is sophomore defenseman **Austin Kimball**. "He

SEE AHS HOCKEY - Page 51...

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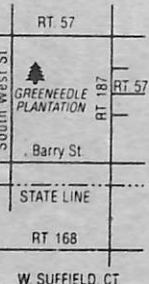


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AHS HOCKEY - from Page 50...

grew four inches over the summer. All he needs is some confidence and he'll be a big help to us."

The coach mentioned his two captains, senior **Trevor Brown** and senior **Matt Radwanski**. Brown was a defenseman, but not anymore. "I've moved him to forward, because we're going to have a problem putting the puck in the net this season. I think he'll help in that department," the coach said.

"And Matt, well, Matt is a rock. He's not a showboat. He's very professional in the way he does his job.

The strong point for the team this season will be the defense, according to the coach. "We'll intimidate people by playing well in that department. At this level, you can't bully anyone."

Offense will be a problem. They will only have two lines this year. "When I want to try and get another line on the ice, to spelly my starters, I'm going to have to scramble. It will be a mix and match job," Coach Pycko admitted.

He also mentioned conditioning. "We haven't had all that much time to practice. So, conditioning, or lack of it, might be a factor. But it's that way for most of the clubs around here."

The coach can't put a finger on the style of play the team will employ this year. "We've been evaluating things during practice. But how you show during workouts and how things go during games are like night and day. There are practice players and there are game players. We've got to see who the gamers will be. Hopefully, we'll know by the first of the year what this team is all about."

He cited their main opponents as all the Berry Division clubs. "Also," he added, "Ludlow is always tough and Holyoke is reportedly supposed to be good this year."

Little Margin For Error

He noted that they'll be geared towards the playoffs and there is little margin for error on the road to that end. "The season is short (only 17 games). It is almost over before it starts. You can't afford to have any kind of slump. You have to be up for every game."

He says he will coach the team differently this year. "The last time around, I gave them too much freedom. Some kids took advantage of it. They'll get discipline now. I told them that if they get a misconduct penalty, no matter if they caused it or someone goaded them into it, they'll sit out the next game."

WRESTLING - from Page 46...

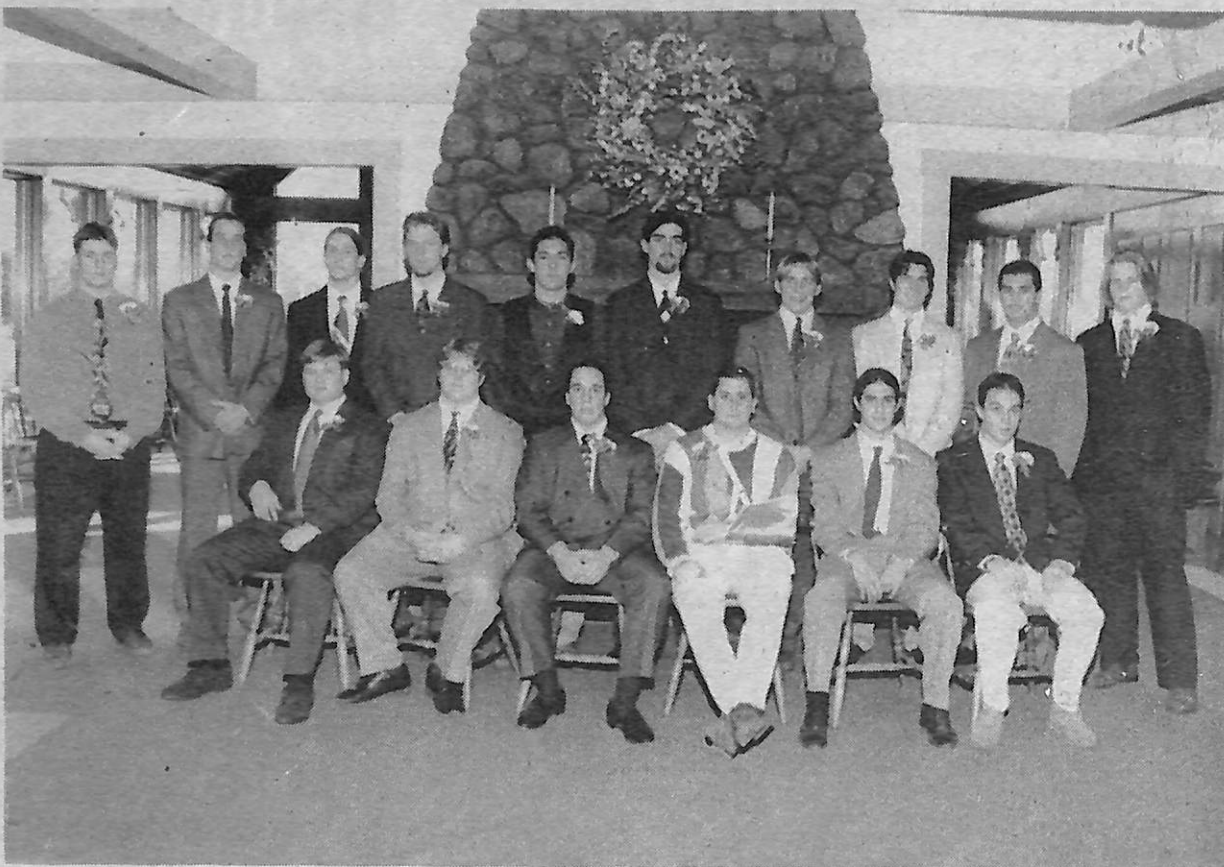
Are there places in which this team can afford improvement? "Our middle weight class will be challenged," the coach observed. Those classes include 130, 135, 140, 145, 152, and 160 pounds. If you read into what he said, read it this way. Tomkiel has so much talent, that there will be battles every week just to get a job in those classes for the next meet.

Is another Western Mass. title a lock? "Never think that," Tomkiel said. "There are so many variables. Academic problems, physical situations, and things like a skin rash can derail you. I'm serious. If your team comes down with something like that, the Board of Health will shut your program down. It happens in a close contact sport like wrestling."

Who will stand in their way this year? "Central, Putnam, and probably Longmeadow," the coach notes. But he didn't seem all that worried.

Agawam To Host Western Mass. Tournament

He's also proud of the fact that Agawam will be hosting the Western Mass. Sectional Tournament this year. "We did it in 1985 and 1986. It's going back to a two-day affair rather than a one-day marathon. That means less pressure on everyone because we can all take a breather."

Banquet Finalizes AHS '95 Football Season

THE AGAWAM HIGH FOOTBALL team gathered for its annual banquet on November 28th at Oak Ridge Golf Club. **IN PHOTO ABOVE** are members of the Class of 1996 - (back row) - Tony Russo, B.J. Cortis, Mike Perry, Jason DeGray, Dan Lancour, Chris Day, Andrew "The Dog" Ingham, Jeff "The Cat" Harlin, Dom "The Mouse" Pisano, and Derek - "The Porpoise" Parker. **Front row** - Dan Yon, Justin Casinhino, Glenn Wegrzyn, Dan Pellegrino, Tom Gage, and Andy Markowski. **IN PHOTO LEFT** are the team's 1995 captains and coaches. **Back row** - Coaches Gary Geiger, Curt Boyle, Mike Birk, and Dean Vecchiarelli. **Front row** - '95 Captains-Jeff Harlin and Dom Pisano. Advertiser News photos by Jack Devine.

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Annual Soccer Banquet For AHS Girls



SENIOR CLASS MEMBERS of the Agawam High 1995 girls' varsity soccer team are pictured at the annual banquet at Chez Josef. Back row, from left - Jamie Thomas and Steph Biza. Seated - Kara McDade, Alison Reseigne, Courtnie Hyland, and Danielle Petrangelo. Missing: Sue DeFilipi. Advertiser News photo by Jack Devine.



1995 Agawam High girls' varsity soccer captains with their coach, Mary Murray, at the annual banquet at Chez Josef. From left - (captain) Sue DeFilipi, Coach Murray, (captain) Alison Reseigne, Stephanie Biza, and (captain) Courtnie Hyland. The girls have just presented a picture collage to Murray on the 1995 season.

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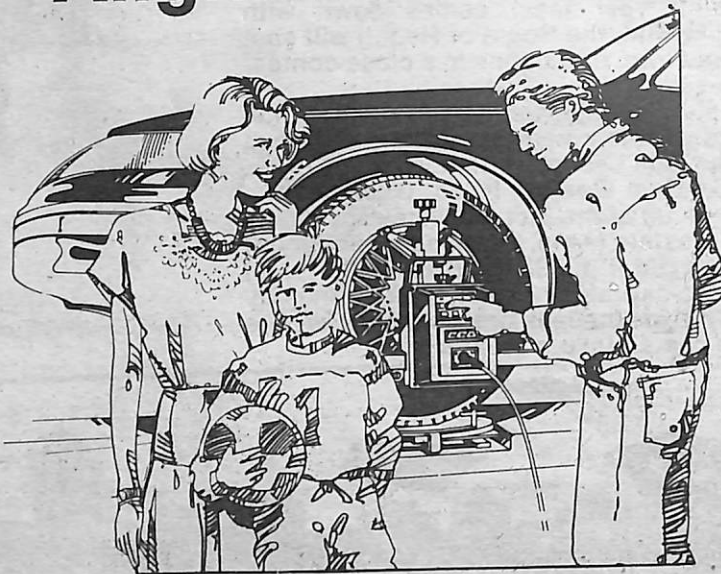
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Tri-Parish Bowlers Have Great Week!

After two weeks in Round Two of the Monday night Tri-Parish Bowling League held at the Agawam Bowl, St. Anselm (6 wins) holds the lead with St. Mary (5½ wins) in second place.

St. A's made it a clean sweep over Georgetown (3 wins) and what a night it was for St. A's Captain "Luscious" LOU MULDER. "Luscious" made up for many of those nights on the lanes he'd rather forget by firing a magnificent 404, the first time a Tri-Parish Bowler had gone over the 400 mark in quite a spell. "Luscious" now holds an average of 106.13, good for second place in the Open Class.

G-Town Captain DEBBIE POIRIER fired a nifty 334 but couldn't believe how hot "Luscious" was on this night. Debbie is at 105.0 in the Open Class.

St. A's had three other winners - leadoff LOU NAPOLITAN (251, 82.21 in Men's C); DORIS FORTIER (247, 88.14 in Women's B); and YVONNE CHARTIER (296, 106.8 in Women's AA).

Fifth place Catholic University (5 wins) fell before seventh place St. Louis (3 wins). St. Lou winners were leadoff AUDREY PHILLIPS (265), KIM LACROIX (277-272 over MARY THOMAS), and Captain GLEN ADAMS (336-310 over BILL GRIFIN). The only winner for CU was third roller TOM "Not Tony" CURTIS (274, 103.26 in Men's AA).

For St. Lou, Audrey Phillips is second in Women's C at 84.10; Kim L. is the leader in Women's B at 91.8; and Mr. Adams is the leader in Men's AA at 106.20. So how come they aren't farther up the ladder?

Next on the lanes was a match between ninth place Fordham (2 wins) and last place St. Michael's (1½ wins). Winners for Fordham were CORI NAPOLITAN (302) and Captain "Jollie" OLLIE MULDER, a 367-301 conquerer of St. Mike's Captain JEAN BUONICONTI. "Jollie" wasn't going to allow his brother "Luscious" Lou to get all the limelight as his torrid 367 kept his average at the top of the league at 110.2. Jean B. is fourth in Women's AA at 93.13.

The only winner for St. Mike's was leadoff JAY LAGODITZ (277, fifth in Women's B at 85.26). Substitute roller for Fordham "Steady" EDDIE GALLERANI and third roller VI MASSOIA tied at 255 each. Vi is third in Women's A at 92.10. C. Napolitan is second in Women's A at 95.17 for Fordham.

In the next match, fourth place Notre Dame (5 wins) and sixth place Holy Cross (4 wins) crossed paths. ND had two winners - DON "Don't Sit On" STITT (307, 98.20 in Men's A) and Captain FLO ROCHFORD (319-284 over HC anchorgal SUE GRIFFIN). Flo is the overall women's leader at 106.14 while Sue G. is third in Women's AA at 100.21.

In the final match of the night, third place Boston College (5 wins) faced second place St. Mary's, and it was a pretty good match for BC. BC winners were leadoff DAVE ALDRICH (275, 85.26 in Men's C), reliable STELLA BARBIERI (249, 88.27

Cincotta's Big Green Under 17 Coed Champs



CINCOTTA'S BIG GREEN are the 1995 Agawam Soccer Association in-town coed champs. Back row, from left - Coach Larry Cincotta, Heather Cincotta, Tony Marsili, Joe DePalma, Geoff Krapf, Melissa Sparver, Jason Lariviere, Bill Maroni, Assistant Coach Dave Shaw. Front row - Nick Montessi, Rick Haglund, Todd Lovell, Jamie Cincotta, Shelley Rose, Karen Shaw, Lonnie DeLuca, and A.J. Houghtaling. Missing - Eric Copson.

in Women's B), and Captain "Jungle" JIM MC-CORMICK, a happy 308 winner over distraught St. Mary's Captain JOHN LONCRINI (264). "Jungle" Jim is now at 103.13 in Men's AA, good for third place, while Mr. Loncrini is fifth in Men's AA at 95.29.

The only winner for St. Mary's was "Sweet" LOU MASSOIA (310), who will be back on the Agawam School Committee in January.

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BayWest Blazers Run Record To 6-4 In Early Winter Play

The BayWest Blazers, after storming out to a 4-1 start, have continued to play excellent team hockey, although their overall record doesn't indicate it. After going 2-3 in their last five games, their record now stands at 6-4.

The team recently dropped two close games to a bigger WTM team, 3-1 and 2-1. They played tentatively in the first game, and never quite found their skating legs. In the first game, after falling behind 2-0 after two periods, they closed the gap to 2-1 in the third period, with Joe Albano picking up the goal on a pass from Mike Wood.

BayWest pulled goalie Jeremy Rogalski late in the game for another skater, but WTM scored an empty net goal to seal the victory. In their rematch, the Blazers played much more aggressively and controlled most of the play, but just weren't able to capitalize on their scoring chances.

WTM took advantage of a defensive lapse and scored two goals in four seconds to take a 2-0 lead. Joe Albano made it a 2-1 game, assisted by Steve Wood and Tony Boido, and that ended up being the final score.

Their third loss was by far their best effort of the season. In a disappointing 2-1 loss to Holy Name No. 1, the kids proved they can play against anyone (including players twice their age). BayWest took a 1-0 lead into the third period on a Tony Boido goal, assisted by Brandon Melikian and Nick DiMaio.

In the third period, they simply ran out of gas after skating hard all game, and Holy Name scored two goals in the final minute of play to win the game. Jeremy Rogalski had an outstanding game in goal, and the defense of Tyler Bokuniewicz, Mike Landry, and Chris Darnell played well also.

Incredibly, a random sampling of Holy Name players showed that they were anywhere from 10-12 years-old, while the BayWest players are six through nine years-old.

The Blazers continued to play well, and hoped to get back on the winning track against Westfield. The game was a wide open, high scoring affair where whoever scored the last goal was going to win. Westfield caught BayWest off guard, scoring two quick first period goals.

The Blazers stormed back with four goals to take a 4-2 lead. Steve Wood opened the scoring, assisted by Tony Boido. Mike Wood tied the game at 2, with assists credited to Tony Boido and Jeremy Rogalski.

Joe Albano put BayWest ahead, assisted by Tyler Bokuniewicz and Drew Young. Tony Boido picked up his third assist of the game, setting up Steve Wood for the fourth goal of the game. Rounding out the scoring was Joe Albano from Drew Young, and Brandon Melikian assisted by Joe Albano. The final score was BayWest 6, Westfield 4.

SEE BAYWEST - Page 55...

Spear's Gang Under-12 ASA Champs



MEMBERS OF THE UNDER 12 girls' champs in the Agawam Soccer Association's fall league. Back row, from left - Coach Bill Spear, Alyssa Goodrow, Jaclyne Sapelli, Brittany Shields, Ashley Robidoux, Eliza Dickmann, and Tabitha Schutt. Front row - Jodie Pfau, Rachel Caruso, Elizabeth Gottardi, Nicole Circosta-Aspinall, Ashleigh Chrusciel, Amanda Trujillo, and Julia Spear. Missing: Coach Kark Dickmann. The girls had a fine season and only allowed nine goals.

Games And Lanes Indoor Soccer Leagues (As Of December 10, 1995)

U-10 BOYS
Agawam/Oleksak
Agawam/Perry
Westfield
East Longmeadow
Big E's Eagles

W L T P
5 0 0 10
4 0 0 8
2 3 0 4
1 4 0 2
0 5 0 0

U-14 BOYS
Berzerkers
Sporting Juniors
Blue Devils
Agawam/Intown
Revolution
Tube Products
Southampton

W L T P
4 1 0 8
4 0 0 8
3 2 0 6
2 2 0 4
1 3 0 2
1 3 0 2
0 4 0 0

U-14 GIRLS
Northampton/Devils
Agawam/Dynamos
South Hadley
Gateway

W L T P
3 0 0 6
1 1 0 2
1 2 0 2
0 2 0 0

**U-17 BOYS
HIGH SCHOOL DIVISION**
Agawam Juniors
Agawam Seniors
Holyoke S.C. Green
Holyoke S.C. Gray
Agawam Intown
Milne El Fuego
Westfield/Bombers

W L T P
4 1 0 8
4 0 0 8
3 2 0 6
2 2 0 4
2 3 0 4
1 3 0 2
0 5 0 0

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Riverside Honors Its Race Champs

Riverside Park Speedway in Agawam, MA, honored its NASCAR Winston Racing Series Champions on Friday, November 17th, and Saturday, November 18th. A total of 1,500 people attended the two "Crowning of the Champions" banquets, and Ben Dodge's 1995 Riverside Speedway point fund distributed \$72,936 to the top 15 competitors in the NASCAR Modifieds, Pro Stocks, Pro 4 Modifieds, Late Models, and Strictly Stocks.

The full amount of \$72,936 was distributed along with \$10,000 worth of specialty awards and plaques. The Oaks Grand Ballroom was the setting for the two formal affair.

With five feature wins and 16 top five finishes, Dan Avery of Somers, CT, won the 1995 Winston Modified Championship crown (worth in excess of \$8,789.20). Dan, a four-time runner-up, was quick to credit his Winston title to his Porter/Chester Institute crew and associate sponsor Wood Construction.

"This title is a dream come true; the support of this team with Porter/Chester built the foundation for the title. With the help of Wood Construction and a dedicated group of friends, we are the Riverside Champions," said a deserving Dan Avery. "My plans for next year include Riverside and a limited tour schedule."

Second through 15th shared \$29,359.51 in Modified point money, plus championship owner and driver four-foot trophies. Dave Berube received \$4,144.10 for second, followed by Doug Meserve, \$3,406.69; Ed Spiers, \$2,525.68; Ted Riggott, \$1,890.87; Brian Schofield, \$1,606.46; Reggie Ruggiero, \$1,222.05; Dave Caruso, \$937.64; Fran Principi, \$834.44; and Steve Park, \$803.23.

Rounding out the top 15 were Rich Savary, \$694.79; Chris Kopec, \$636.35; Jim Houghton, \$627.91; Dave Gallo, \$619.47; and Tim Zambelli, \$611.03.

Tom Carey was crowned the Pro Stock Champion. Tom had three wins and 14 top 15 finishes, and he drove for Buddy Gram/Joe Bean Auto Body (his Pontiac was sponsored by Mark E. Salamone Law Offices). Tom received \$3,305 of the \$17,967.23 Riverside Pro Stock point fund.

"I want to thank Buddy and the crew, Mark E. Salamone, my friends, and family. This is my second Riverside title and I have won elsewhere, but Riverside makes a Champion special," said Tom,

adding, "I will return in 1996."

Tom Fearn was second in the Pro Stocks and earned \$2,477. He was followed by Eddy Carroll, \$1,877.25; Barry Gray, \$1,402; Bill Lauridsen, \$1,151.75; Jeff Horn \$1,351.50; Scott Bouley, \$1,001.25; Lou Prior, \$851; Jeff Connors, \$1,425.88; Kevin Czarnecki, \$500.75; John Lobo, \$455.72; Rich Vasseur, \$490.70; Dan Grasso, \$485.68; Doug Dell, \$380.65; and Ed Carroll, \$270.60.

Gee Perry won his first Late Model title with two wins and 12 top five finishes. He took home \$2,596 of the \$13,202 posted for Riverside's Late Models.

"We owe a lot to our friends, my brother Jeff Perry, and sponsors like Plaza/Leivelles—Somerville Auto Sales, and my friends and family," said Gee Perry. "Next year, we are planning on two cars."

The rest of the top 15 finishers in this division go as follows: Chuck Docherty, \$1,648; Fred LaForge, \$1,468.10; Rocco Mazziotto, \$1,263.40; Glen Griswold, \$1,008.60; Joe Czarnecki, \$903.80; Marty Leary, \$699; Paul Dipisa, \$569.20; Wayne Coury, \$454.30; Todd Owen, \$689.40; Ted Chalmers, \$386.42; Brian Merchant, \$383.44; Matt Bushior, \$380.46; Rob Valerio, \$377.48; and Chris Wenzal, \$374.50.

Even Riverside's Strictly Stocks had a \$4,075 point fund that was divided amongst the top 15 competitors. Ken Marques won one feature and 21 top 10 finishes, thereby earning \$1,000 for his Strictly Stock Championship.

The rest of the top 15 finishers in this division were Chuck Alessio, Roy Houle, Tom Dileo, Scott Neleber, Mike Salmond, Herb Carlon, Joe Arena, Ed Charette, Pat Townsend, Jon Waterhouse, Jim Sommer, Joe Kokoszka, Kris Valerio, and Al Leone.

This year marked the last time that the Pro 4 Modified Championship will be included in the Saturday point fund, as the class will only run on Sundays in 1996. George Savary won the 1995 title to receive \$1,150, followed by Renee Dupuis, George Ruff, Joe Doucette, Chris Osella, Jim Hatt, Dick Dubois, George Sherman, Ron Dell, and Bill Gaston.

The 11th- through 15th-place finishers for the Pro 4 Modifieds were Ron Smith, Ken Hirt, Jr., Gorman, Dennis Routhier, and Rick Desrosier.

Over 40 competitor special awards were voted on and presented by the officials and race fans. "Rookie of the Year" honors went to Ted Riggott (Modifieds), Jeff Connors (Pro Stocks), Rob Valerio (Late Models), Pat Townsend (Strictly Stocks), and Ron Smith (Pro 4 Modifieds).

The "Most Improved" winners included Ed Spiers, Tim Zambelli, and Scott Walker, Modifieds; Bennett Fuller and Jeff Horn, Pro Stocks; Wayne Coury and Rocco Mazziotto, Late Models; Jon Waterhouse, Strictly Stocks; and Chris Osella, Pro 4 Modifieds.

"Professionalism" awards went to Dave Berube, Jeff Horn, Chuck Docherty, Roy Houle, George Ruff, and Ken Marques. "Best Appearing" awards were presented to Ted Riggott, Doug Dell, Tom Carey, Paul Dipisa, Wayne Coury, Ken Marques, Roy Houle, and Ron Dell. The "Hard Luck" awardees were Scott Walker, Eric LeClair, Dan Grasso, Chris Wenzal, Joe Kokoszka, and Ken Korhoner.

The "Most Popular Drivers" were Dan Avery, Scott Bouley, Chuck Docherty, Renee Dupuis, Scott Neleber, and Ken Marques.

The "Rollie Jacobs Class Act" award went to a deserving Bruce Adams; the "Sue Dugan Memorial" award went to Linda Brady and Judi Cline; and the "Gene Murphy Memorial" award went to Tom Stroiney.

The following NAPA Series Champions were crowned: Dan Avery, Tom Fearn, Todd Owen, and Mike Salmond. The Snap-On-Tools Champions were Dan Avery, Jeff Connors, Gee Perry, and Rick Leavitt.

The Super Start Battery winners were Reggie Ruggiero and crew chief Bill Pelly, \$350; Bennett Fuller, \$350; Gee Perry, \$350; and Scott Neleber, \$350.

All of the officials and media friends in attendance received a special award of appreciation in honor of the 1995 Riverside season.

Ben Dodge then spoke about the 1996 NASCAR Winston Racing Series and looked forward to a 40-event season beginning March 23rd. He also talked about an even larger point fund and many new changes for 1996.

He applauded the crowd in attendance and the record-breaking year of 159,210 at Riverside Speedway. Everyone in attendance received the 1995 year-end review and projected 1996 program with color schedule.

BAY WEST - from Page 54...

Their next game was against Holy Name No. 2, whom they had beaten 2-0 earlier in the season. Chris Darnell set the tone for the game, crashing the net and knocking in the rebound of a Tony Boido shot to put BW ahead 1-0 less than a minute into the game.

Joe Albano made it 2-0, taking a lead pass from Jeremy Rogalski and beating the goalie up high. Mike Wood scored the only goal of the second

period when Chris Darnell sent him on a breakaway.

Joe Albano took another feed from Jeremy Rogalski and scored to start the third period, and also completed a hat trick with an unassisted goal late in the game. Tyler Bokuniewicz added the final goal, assisted by Nick DiMaio and Mike Wood, making the final score 6-0. Drew Young played a super game in goal, earning the shutout, which is the team's fourth of the season.

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Agawam Rec. Dept. Now Registering For 1995-96 Winter Programs

REGISTRATION INFORMATION:

Registration for all programs is now taking place for the Agawam Parks & Recreation Department's 1995-1996 winter programs at the Recreation Office from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Registration for all recreation programs is limited and is offered on a first-come, first-served basis; phone registrations will *not* be accepted.

All fees are required at the time of registration, and are made payable to the Town of Agawam. Release forms must be signed by a parent or legal guardian for all youth programs.

ADULT:

AEROBICS: Intermediate, low-impact workout includes toning and stretching. The eight-week program, instructed by Karen Wilson-Mickey, begins January 8th at the AGAWAM MIDDLE SCHOOL. Participants must supply their own mats.

Monday/Wednesday/Thursday, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.; \$50 (eight weeks) or \$3/night.

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL: Competitive program begins January 11th and runs for eight weeks at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL.

Thursday, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.; \$20.

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL: "Fun" recreational program begins January 8th and runs for eight weeks at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

Monday, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.; \$20.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL: Competitive, recreational program begins January 8th and runs for eight

weeks at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.

Monday, 6:45 to 8:45 p.m.; \$20.

DROP-IN BASKETBALL: Supervised drop-in basketball program runs through the end of March at the AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL for RESIDENTS ONLY. I.D. cards can be picked up at the Recreation Office.

Monday/Wednesday, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.; \$2/night.

ARTS/CRAFTS: Instructor Karla Mancini Young will offer a variety of craft workshops this winter. For more information, call the Recreation Office, 786-0400, ext. 256.

RECREATIONAL SWIM: Public swim will be held at the AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL throughout the school year.

Monday, 7:00 to 8:45 p.m.; \$2 (six years and up), \$1 (under six years of age).

YOUTH:

The Recreation Department, in conjunction with The Rollaway, will sponsor the following:

KINDERSKATE: Special afternoon skate for pre-schoolers and parents.

Wednesday, 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.; parents (\$3/session), pre-schoolers (\$2/session).

AFTER SCHOOL SKATE: Monthly after school skate specials. Watch for detailed flyers through the schools.

Wednesday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., January 31st.

Wednesday, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., March 6th;

\$2.50/session.

SPEED SKATING: Learn the basics of speed skating.

Session 1: January 21st through February 11th (four-week session). Session 2: March 3rd through March 31st (four-week session). Sunday, 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.; \$18/session. NO INLINES ALLOWED.

ROLLER HOCKEY: Ages eight to 15. Protective equipment required.

Session 1: January 21st through February 11th (four-week session). Session 2: March 3rd through March 31st (four-week session). Sunday, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; \$18/session. NO INLINES ALLOWED. (PRICES ABOVE INCLUDE SKATE RENTALS.)

SUPER SATURDAY: Supervised activities include sports, games, and arts/crafts. Open to children ages four and older. The eight-week program begins January 13th.

Saturday, 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.; \$35/session or \$5/week.

Instructors: Dan Pryce, Sarah Bufland, and Recreation Department Staff.

INFORMATION NUMBERS:

Agawam Athletic Association — Bob Hersey, 786-2979.

Agawam Soccer Association — Denny Marr, 789-2796.

Baywest Hockey Association — Pat Johnson, 733-9243.

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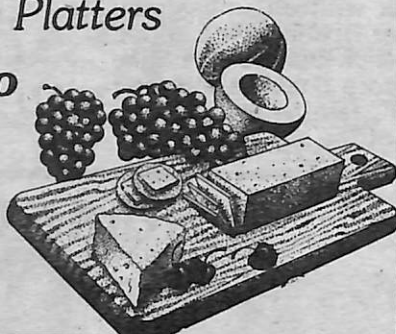
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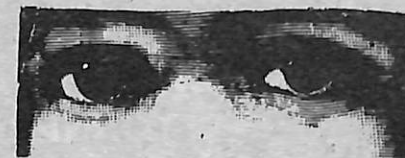
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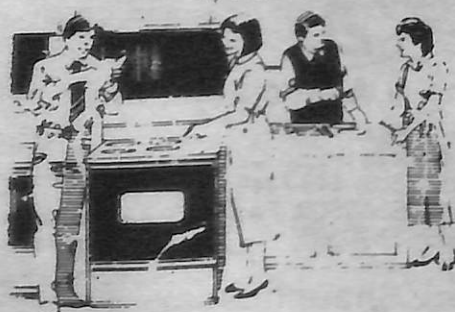
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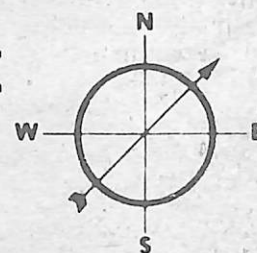
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HALL SNOW PLOWING, FALL CLEANUP, LAWN CARE & LANDSCAPING: Lawnmowing, aeration, and dethatching. Commercial and residential, free est. Call 789-9556.

CLEANING/HOUSE-KEEPING: Mother's helper. Windows, all phases commercial and residential. Call 789-9556.

BULK ITEM REMOVAL: Metal removal, appliance removal, garages cleaned, attics cleaned, cellars cleaned, lawn maintenance, water heaters removed. No job too big. Free est. 746-9880.

CARPENTRY SERVICES: Additions & remodeling, family rooms, cellars, kitchens & baths, Florida rooms & screen porches, decks & replacement windows, wood siding & sheds. 25 yrs. exp. Fully insured & references. No job too small. Call George Bernier, 786-8452.

BILL SPEAR FORESTRY SERVICES: Complete tree removal, trimming. Land cleared. Senior citizen discount. FREE ESTIMATES. Fully insured. Call 786-5081.

APPLIANCE AND REFRIGERATOR REPAIR: Mr. Service. Fast, competitive prices. One call does it all. Your hometown repairman. Call (413) 789-1883.

DAVID'S WINDOW CLEANING AND JANITORIAL
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HANDY PERSON: Painting, wallpapering, wallpaper removal, installation of door knobs, locks, window shades, curtain rods, telephone jacks ... and the list goes on. Call Joe Gazar for free estimate, 786-4697.

NORTHEAST BUILDERS: Custom homes & remodeling (since 1975). Fully insured & licensed. Rick Pfeffer, 4 Lenox St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. Reg. No. 116963; Const. Sup. No. 000450. (413) 789-1150.

HAULER/DISPOSAL SERV.: Attn. Real Estate Agents—Newly started business will take your worries away. From emptying & cleaning gar., cellars, attics, to whole homes & apts. Small jobs a specialty, but not limited. Will also do interior painting & vacuuming. (413) 535-5110.

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RAGGEDY ANN'S FAMILY DAY CARE: Full- and part-time openings available. Reasonable rates. Call Ann, 789-2238. Lic. no. 176401.

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CURLEY'S PLOWING: Free estimates, fully insured. Commercial and residential. Reasonable rates, quality work. Curley's Lawn Service and Plowing, 786-4622.

PAUL'S TREE SERVICE: Removal, pruning, planting, stump grinding, lot clearing, trimming hedges, cabling and bracing, lightning protection. Neat clean-up (no mess left). Call Paul Cocchi, 733-7520.

SNOWPLOWING: Residential and commercial. Reliable and prompt service. Reasonable rates; driveways starting at \$10. Gary Buendo, 40 Emerson Road, Agawam, 789-2147.

CARPENTER: Small jobs to custom homes. Honest work at today's prices. Senior discounts and free estimates. Call Stephen Gould, 786-6887.

CLEANING: K.N.S Cleaning Service provides home and office cleaning. Weekly or bi-weekly service available. To receive a free estimate, please call Kelly and Sue, 789-6916.

JW's HOME IMPROVEMENT: All phases of roofing & repairs. "Since 1972." Call John for free estimates, 786-6754. "Roof Doctor." Also specializing in snow removal.

SNOW PLOWING: Driveways, sidewalks, stairs, parking lots. Residential/commercial. Free estimates. Every third storm half price. Call Ed White, (413) 786-2386.

JT'S SNOWPLOWING: Winter is here! Don't delay, call today and reserve your time slot with us on our '95-'96 snow removal schedule. Call 789-7780.

AFFORDABLE CUSTOM CLOSETS: Call today for a FREE ESTIMATE. Quality workmanship and lowest prices guaranteed! (413) 538-6360.

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WANTED—NAIL TECHNICIAN: FT/PT, experience a must. Clientele preferred but not necessary. Must be familiar with different techniques of artificial nails. Competitive commission, ongoing education, vacation pay. Call La Mirage for an interview, 789-4220.

WANTED—RESTAURANT HELP: The following positions are available—waitstaff, kitchen help, counterperson. PT/FT weekdays & nights. Able to work weekends. Experience a plus. Apply in person. Frankie's Firehouse Restaurant, 25 Palomba Dr., Enfield.

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FOR SALE: Nice Christmas gift—IBM compatible computer. Low density, colored monitor, great starter, excellent condition. Call between 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., or 4:30 to 9:00 p.m. 786-1378.

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FOR RENT: 4 room apartment, residential area in private home near Agawam Center. Electricity included—\$470.00 a month. Call 786-7243. Leave message.

PERSONAL

May the Sacred Heart of Jesus be adored, glorified, loved, and preserved, now and forever. Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us. Sacred Heart, help of the hopeless, pray for us. St. Jude, worker of miracles, pray for us. Say this prayer nine times a day. It has never been known to fail. Publication must be promised. Thank you St. Jude for granting my petition.

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